

Dec. 6 - 19
2006

Communicator

Haliburton County's Good News Fun Free Newspaper

**Santa Has Arrived... If You Missed Him - He's
Coming To Wilberforce Next...**



See parade photo pages on pages 42 & 43...

Just a reminder that Santa Claus will be rolling into Wilberforce on Sunday December 10th for the Annual Santa Claus parade. The parade happens at 12:30 down the main drag in town. Santa will stick around after the parade for festivities, and pictures with the kids at the Lloyd Watson Center. For more information contact Lynn at 448-3674.

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Holidays To
All !!**

**Teddy
Time**
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Not Quite Main Street

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County Rd 21, Haliburton



Snowflakes are one of nature's most fragile things, but just look what they can do when they stick together.

Vesta M. Kelly

www.teddytime.com

Christmas Open House to Support Pregnancy Care Centre

Highland Stone Cottage Bed & Breakfast will host a Christmas Open House on Saturday, December 16, from 2-4pm. This event is a fundraiser for the Highlands Community Pregnancy Care Centre. For a donation of any size, you are welcome to come and tour this picturesque retreat on Head Lake in Haliburton, enjoy the Christmas decorations, and treat your tastebuds.

Too busy to do your own Christmas baking? A Bake Table will be filled with lots of goodies for you to purchase and bring home. A Craft Table will also feature beautiful handmade works by Deb Dart.

The Highlands Community Pregnancy Care Centre offers support to young women and girls faced with an unplanned pregnancy. All services are free and confidential including pregnancy tests, one-on-one support, information on all the options, maternity clothes, baby clothes, baby supplies and post-abortion support. The Centre, located at 187 Highland Street Unit #8 (lower level Stedmans Mall) in Haliburton, is a member of the Christian Association of Pregnancy Support Services. It is managed and operated by a Board of Directors, Executive Director Julie Goodwin and several volunteers.

Carolyn Emmerson has been a volunteer at the Centre since it opened in May of this year. She and her husband, Ed, own Highland Stone Cottage and have graciously offered to open their Bed & Breakfast to the public in support of the Centre. Highland Stone Cottage is a charming Bed & Breakfast with a cozy cottage atmosphere, complete with crackling stone

fireplace, hot tub and a beautiful lakefront view. The cottage is located at 18 Wallings Rd. in Haliburton (Wallings Rd. is just west of the bridge near the High School; Stone Cottage is the 2nd drive on the right). They can be reached at (705) 457-1940 and you can visit them on the Web at www.bbcanada.com/3926.html.

The Highlands Community Pregnancy Care Centre is open Tuesday to Thursday from 10am to 2pm and Fridays from 3-7pm. You can reach them by phone at (705) 457-HOPE (4673) or by email at hope@haliburtonpregnancycentre.ca. For more information, visit their website at www.haliburtonpregnancycentre.ca.

Don't Drink and Drive and Win in More Ways Than One!

It's that time of year again, and I'm sure we all know by now that you just don't drink and drive. To make sure we all pay special attention to the rule, our local R.I.D.E. programs have started in full force and will continue through the Holidays until January 2, 2007.

This year, if you are found (as you should be) sober while driving you will be given a ballot. You can put your name and address on the ballot and drop it off at the Haliburton Highlands Detachment on Highway #35 or mail it (P.O. Box 58 Minden, Ontario, K0M1S0) and you could be the winner of the grand prize.

This year one person will be chosen to receive an assortment of prizes supplied by local companies and the Haliburton Highlands O.P.P. Detachment. The winner will be chosen after the R.I.D.E. program ends January 2, 2007.

Stay Alive - and Drive Sober! It's that simple!! Have a safe holiday season!!

Capture The Spirit Of The Wilderness This Holiday Season!

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This year get her a gift she'll love & we'll make it easy! Our **diamonds are all on sale** and **we pay the GST**. You'll enjoy snacks & a special gift. You could win **Great Prizes**, including **your purchase - Free!** Our staff is always friendly and the gift wrapping is always free. Also, don't forget to enter our **Dec. draw** held every week in December.



286-1132 104 Main St., Minden

Help The Legions Support Our Troops

Buy A Magnet To Show You Care

This is a short story about small objects with far-reaching implications.

Do you remember when you were young and first moved out of the house, and away from those people and places that were familiar to you...the feelings of loneliness, of longing for home, longing for mom and dad, your best friend, your own bed, your girlfriend or boyfriend? Many of us moved out of house and home to further our education, or to get a job, but many stayed in the province, and most stayed in Canada. Relief was just a phone call, or a short trip away in most cases.

Now picture that same scenario repeated in another country thousands of miles away, where you don't understand the language. Imagine a bleakly contrasting land of sparse vegetation, cold winds, freezing night, with days of dry, hot, sand-blown winds, or driving rain and snow, depending on the time of year. How do you think you might stand up to the loneliness of that type of environment, when relief is not a phone call away or a short trip home; when you know you definitely won't be home for Christmas? This is what our young men and women who are serving in Afghanistan go through as part of their day to day existence. How do you spell relief for them?

Ed Pickard, the President of the Haliburton Legion Branch 129 at least has an idea of how we can show support for our troops, and he knows that if there is support from home it might make things more bearable for them. Ed is helping to promote the sale of magnets which are shaped like a looped bow, which you might have seen on the sides of some cars. "They came into being about six months ago," Ed explains, "and they're to show that people care, and support our troops in Afghanistan. The bows are magnetic, and the centre of the loop pops out to form a small magnet that you can put on your fridge. The remaining bow is for your car. They come



in two colours; yellow and camouflage, and they cost 5 dollars."

"The magnetic bows can be purchased at the Minden and Haliburton Legion branches and probably are available in any legion branch," says Ed. "We've only had them in for a couple of weeks ourselves, and I'm starting to see them on local vehicles. We've already sold about 40 or 50 to date. The branches make about \$1.50 off each magnet and part of that money is for sending Christmas packages to the troops, through the Legion branch in Trenton. It would be nice to see them on everybody's car to let our troops know we're thinking of them, especially at this time of year when they're over there on our behalf and can't make it home for Christmas. We want them to know that our thoughts are with them."

The Legion is also selling lapel pins for 3 dollars. Both the pins and bows can be purchased in the Haliburton Legion Branch 129 on Mountain Street opposite the arena, and at the Minden Legion Branch 636 on Highway 35, at the junction of Highway 21. To find out more phone 457-2571 for Haliburton, or 286-4541 for the Minden branch.

Pictured is Ed Pickard with the car bow magnets & Fridge Magnets

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Highland Images

Spotlight

On Business

by George Farrell

Highland Images Always Keeping Up With The Trends - Just Visit The Shop & You'll See!!

Sometimes what goes around comes around. That is certainly the case for Melinda O'Mara, who ended up buying the store, where as a young girl she worked as a shop assistant. Melinda is the owner and proprietor of Highland Images, the great gift store at 199 Highland street in Haliburton. She is "a Haliburton girl born and bred," but she wasn't always in the gift shop business. "I was a registered nurse for 30 years," Melinda says, "and I got my education at the high school in Haliburton and the Peterborough Civic hospital. I returned to the Highlands and became Director of Care for Highland Crest, until after the amalgamation with Health Services. At Health Services I was the Director of Long Term Care." Melinda retired in February of 2004, because she "was tired of nursing", but realizing that she was not ready to sit at home, she had previously bought her business in September of 2003. "I saw the business for sale, put in an offer and a month later it was settled."

Melinda realized a good thing when she saw it, and did not change the Highlands Images name from when it was owned by a couple who lived out of town. Like many locally owned businesses there is a partner who lends moral support, and who helps out when needed. Such is the case with Melinda's husband Michael. "My thing became our thing," explains Melinda. "Michael would come in and help when nobody else wanted to work, like at Christmas time, and other holidays. I've had a few health problems



recently, and Michael's really helped out. He's been basically running the store in the evenings, after his regular job is over". Michael is head of maintenance for the Haliburton Community Housing Corporation. The O'Mara's have two children. Lyndsey 21 who works locally, and Christopher 16, is in high school at HHSS.

"I've introduced more things appealing to a younger customer base," Melinda states, as she explains how the store is different now to what it was before. "Things like the Hatley line of clothing. It's casual wear, like

sleep pants, T shirts, boxers, night shirts and tank tops. It's nature-themed, colourful clothing." Highland Images also carries many lines of souvenirs, sweat shirts, gift ware, greeting cards, costume jewelry, and kitchen gadgets, just to name some of the thousands of items in her store. It's a pleasing store to look around, with many items to appease all the senses. There are the soy bean candles, beautifully decorated tea sets, and furry, well made stuffed animals that sing everything from popular songs to Christmas carols.

"One of our biggest sellers are the tea pots," says Melinda, and it's not difficult to see why, as she takes me over to a shelf of tea

Highland Images cont'd... pg. 5...

THE Highlands Communicator

Proud member
of the Haliburton
Highlands Chamber of Commerce

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Forever in our Hearts...
Roberta Welsh - Feb 12/06

Special thanks to Larry Levely, Eddie Lehman, Karen Barter, April Lauricella; Cindy Munzel, Fred & Shirl, Jon Dannewald
Lisa Robertson, and all the other people who send in funny stuff - keep us laughing!!

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Entertainment & The Arts Reporter: Lea Harper

Reporter / Photographers: Stephen Patrick

George Farrell

Lea Harper

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Meet The Gang ...

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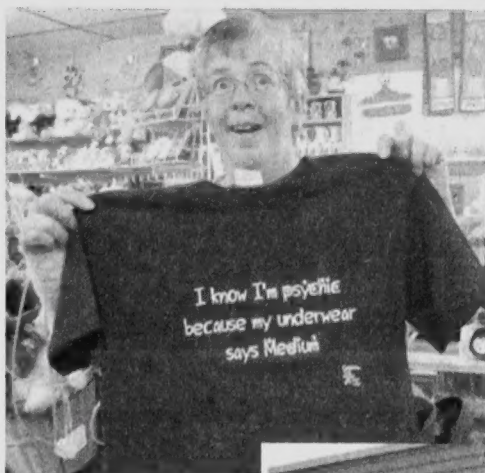
... from pg. 4

pots that are magnificently designed and decorated. "I order different tea pots. I order quirky, and a lot of people who buy the tea pots are collectors." Prices for the pots range from \$12.99 to \$89.99. "The T shirts are a big seller too," she goes on. The Grimm T shirts sell well. They are the ones printed with funny one-liners. On cue I pick one up that reads "I know I'm a psychic because my underwear says medium." I can just hear the groans from all the punsters out there.

Another neat thing about Highland Images is that it has things that actually promote our great county, like sweat shirts, caps, toques and T shirts that identify Haliburton. The T shirt with the wolf is the best seller among the Highlands clothing items. They also sell the Haliburton Highlands dvd.

The building that houses the present day Highland Images "was originally Brohm's Variety and it was owned by Bob and Pauline Brohm, and they were here for years, and I worked here when I was in high school," Melinda recalls. But time passes and Melinda hopes to keep abreast of the times by changing the product lines and inventory to suit the changing requests and requirements of her clientele. "I do all the buying, so as my own tastes change, that too is reflected in the inventory. The biggest challenge is to enjoy your self, and I'm enjoying myself. When I'm not enjoying myself there will be a "for sale" sign in the window."

Highland Images at 199 Highland Street in Haliburton, features thousands of gift items in a wide price range, so if you're looking for that special Christmas gift drop by to see Melinda. Her hours of operation are from 10 to 5 Monday to Saturday. You can call the store at 457-2191.



Pictured opposite page is Michael & Melinda O'Mara. At left on this page is Melinda holding up a T shirt with funny one-liner. Below is Melinda in front of the store located right downtown in Haliburton.



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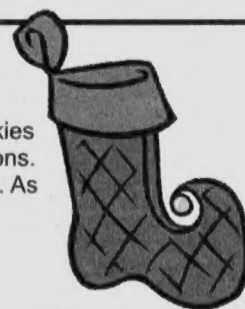
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DUMB CRIMINALS

Asleep at the Steal:

An alleged burglar was arrested after apparently falling asleep on the job. Police charged Joseph Carl Jones Jr. with burglary and theft of a firearm after an employee of the A Little Bit Country western emporium store in Ft. Worth, Texas arrived on the morning of Feb. 7 and found the store in disarray. The employee checked upstairs to make sure everything was secure and to her surprise found Jones asleep in a bed. The employee also noticed someone had used the store's toilet without flushing and left a handgun on the bathroom counter. Police arrived and arrested Jones, who was none too happy to be awakened from his slumber. He was disoriented and said he was sleeping and wanted to be left alone, said Lt. Mike McAllister of the Mineral Wells Police Department.

Authorities say Jones stole the gun from a vehicle a few blocks away and suspect he was under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Oh, by the way, the store Jones was accused of robbing belonged to the wife of the local district attorney.

Better Kiss Him Goodbye:

A wanted man was arrested after his parole officer spotted him kissing his girlfriend in a live crowd shot displayed on the scoreboard at a Cincinnati Reds baseball game. In a bit of coincidence, David Horton and his parole officer were attending the same May 7 game when the smooching couple were caught by the "Kiss Cam" at Great American Ball Park. The parole officer and a police officer arrested the hot lips Casanova in his front-row seat. "Out of all the coincidences, we had 20- or 30-thousand people at the ballpark and who do they put on the 'Kiss Cam'? And then, who is there but his parole officer?" said Richard Goldberg, Horton's attorney. Horton, of Cincinnati, was convicted of felonious assault in 1999 for stabbing two men. He was granted release after serving two years of a four-year prison sentence.

Horton had been arrested March 27 and was indicted for trafficking and possession of cocaine. He is accused of failing to appear in court on those charges. If convicted, he could face up to 18 years in prison.



YES! The Hyland SHUTTLE SERVICE

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Communicator Welcomes Two New Writers To The Team

George Farrell

'By George Farrell' is a line you will see added to the list of by lines in The Communicator and we welcome George to the growing staff of regular freelance writers.

George Farrell is an active member of his community. In addition to sitting on the CED committee of the Haliburton County Development Corporation for six years, George is also a founding member, and director of the Highlands Media Arts organization.

He started his career as a magazine editorial writer, and fashion photographer in Toronto. Later he became a property master and set dresser on feature films, series television and commercials. From there he moved to the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation where he was a writer and producer of a weekly documentary television show, which aired nationally, and ran for five years.

George has won several awards for his documentaries, among them The Columbus International Film Festival Award and the Canadian Association for Community Living Media Award for 'Fight for the Right, the Becky Till Story'. 'Transportation Access For All' won George another award from the

Columbus Festival as well as the Banai Birth of Canada Media Award.

George moved permanently into the Highlands in 1991. In the years since, he has been instrumental in supporting and promoting the Haliburton Highlands in whole and in part, through the use of digital media, particularly video. George has produced videos for organizations such as the County of Haliburton, Save the Frost Centre, The Stanhope Museum, The Haliburton Highlands Health Services, The Arts Council, and the Doctors Recruitment Committee.

He produced and distributed the county's first ever video 'Haliburton Highlands, A Natural Work of Art', which was aired nationally via the CHEX TV network of stations. Dvd copies of the video are available in retail outlets throughout the Highlands.

George has also been active in writing the scripts for all his videos, as well as contributing articles and images to the Highlands Communicator and other media.

George is presently a member of the Agnes Jamieson Gallery, the Haliburton County Community Co-operative, the Highlands Media Arts group, and the Minden Merchants Revitalization Committee.



Lea Harper

The Highlands Communicator is pleased to welcome Lea Harper to our team. Lea will be our arts and entertainment feature writer. An active member of the arts community for over thirty years, she is the author of two books and three recordings. She has been the recipient of various prizes for her poetry and a Juno nomination for her music.

Apart from performing, Lea is a workshop facilitator and guitar teacher. She has composed music for documentaries and dance theatre. For a time, she wrote editorials for Billboard Magazine, NY and The Music Scene in Toronto.

Her work has taken her to Los Angeles, Jamaica and South America. Her songs have received airplay as far a field as Taiwan and South Africa but Lea's heart has always been in the Haliburton Highlands. As a child, her summers were spent on Kennisis Lake. Six years ago, her partner and their two children settled here permanently.

Lea believes we live in a rich and diverse creative community and hopes that as board member of the Haliburton Arts Council and writer for the Communicator, she can help promote the arts and give voice to the emerging as well as established artists in our County.

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2002 Nissan Sentra GxE, Blue, 80,000km, under \$10,000
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Just A Tap

A passenger in a taxi leaned over to ask the driver a question and tapped him on the shoulder. The driver screamed, lost control of the cab, nearly hit a bus, drove up over the curb, and stopped just inches from a large plate glass window.

For a few moments everything was silent in the cab, and then the still shaking driver said, "I'm sorry but you scared the daylight out of me."

The frightened passenger apologized to the driver and said he didn't realize a mere tap on the shoulder could frighten him so much.

The driver replied, "No, no, I'm sorry, it's entirely my fault. Today is my first day driving a cab. I've been driving a hearse for the last 25 years...."

Once you've seen one shopping centre,
you've seen a mall.

Be A Christmas Angel and Buy A Local Child A Gift This Year! It's Easy - Here's How...

Visit either the TD or CIBC banks in Minden and look for the decorated trees filled with paper angels. Each angel is labeled with either boy or girl and an age. This angel represents an actual child in need of a gift this Christmas.

To help all you have to do is take an angel from the tree, and buy a suitable gift for that child on the angel, then wrap it and place it back under the tree with the angel attached.

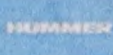
You will be putting a smile on the face of some youngster this year!! What a great feeling that is!!

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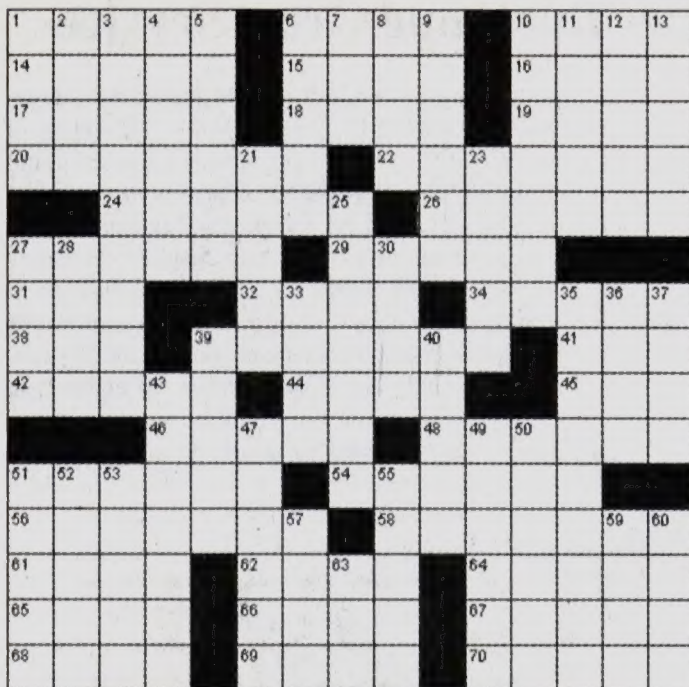
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- 26 End of Lent
- 27 Compensating equivalent
- 29 Deep gulf
- 31 Writer Levin
- 32 Tennis's Ramirez
- 34 Enforcement power
- 38 Neither companion
- 39 Riviera resort
- 41 "___ Na Na"
- 42 The K of RKO
- 44 NZ bird
- 45 Norm
- 46 Commotion
- 48 Astute
- 51 Arouse
- 54 More intrusive
- 56 Turned inside out
- 58 Invaders of Rome
- 61 "All I Have ___ is Dream"
- 62 1960 Olympics venue
- 64 Aladdin's enabler
- 65 Baby's bed
- 66 Not shut tight
- 67 Words on a Wonderland cake
- 68 Jekyll's alter ego
- 69 Class
- 70 Single-masted vessel

Down

- 1 Agile
- 2 Jazz trumpeter Baker
- 3 Haile Selassie, to some
- 4 Father of Horus
- 5 Actress Richards
- 6 "Don't Cry ___, Argentina"
- 7 Island guitar
- 8 Wise
- 9 Site of the 2000 Olympics
- 10 Dead end
- 11 Wasn't upright
- 12 Cavalry weapon
- 13 Direct
- 21 Extremist
- 23 Must
- 25 Lizard
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- 43 First CinemaScope movie
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- 50 Give new hands
- 51 Go and get
- 52 Creamy white
- 53 Made over
- 55 Plain to see
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- 60 Ooze
- 63 Calendar abbr.

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2282A - \$10,900  2000 Ford Windstar SEL, 3.8 L V6, auto, many options, Maroon/Tan, 113,500 kms	2306 - \$17,500  2006 Chrysler Sebring Touring, 2.7 L V6, auto, Aluminum Wheels, A/C, CD, PW, PL, Silver, 30,207 kms.	07-117A - \$11,900  2002 Dodge Caravan, 3.3 L, auto, CD, A/C, PW, PL, Patriot Blue, 81,000 kms.
06-80A - \$13,900  2002 Dodge Grand Caravan Sport, 3.3 L, auto, A/C, CD, PW, PL, Keyless, Steel Blue, 89,272 kms.	2259 - \$13,500  2005 Dodge SX 2.0, auto, A/C, CD, PW, PL, Aluminum Wheels, Spoiler, 33,435 kms	06-18A - \$13,900  2002 Dodge Grand Caravan Sport, 3.3 L, auto, A/C, CD, PW, PL, Keyless, Patriot Blue, 95,656 kms
07-33A - \$8,900  Ford Taurus SE, 3.0 L V6, auto, A/C, 6 Disc, Power Pedals, Spoiler, Al. Wheels, Green, 105,000 kms	06-115A - \$4,900  1996 Dodge Grand Caravan, 3.3 L, auto, A/C, CD, PW, PL, 225,342 kms, Blue	07-109A - \$6,900  Ford Windstar SE, 3.0 L V6, auto, PW, PL, A/C, 182,000 kms, Tan
2285 - \$9,995  2002 Buick Century Custom, 3.1 L V6, auto, A/C, CD, PW, PL, like new, Silver, 78,830 kms	06-12A - \$8,900  2002 Chrysler Intrepid SE, 2.7 L V6, auto, CD, A/C, PW, PL, Onyx Green, 106,364 kms	06-123A - \$7,900  Dodge Caravan SE, 3.3 L V6, auto, PW, PL, A/C, CD, Silver, 139,000 kms

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Triple 'T' Transmissions: New Owner But Same Great Service

by George Farrell

It's comforting to know that some things you find are exactly how they should be. For instance if you're sick you want to find a doctor who applies good, tried and true methods of getting you well. What you don't want is to hear the word "creative" used in reference to your family doctor. Similarly, when your car has a sick transmission you don't need a "creative" mechanic, you want someone who knows the exact, and proper way to fix it. And so it is with Triple 'T' Transmissions. It looks like what a mechanic's garage should look like, and what you might expect from transmission specialists. There are several vehicles in various degrees of disassembly, and sturdy shelves full of transmissions and parts. There's a gratifying mix of busy mechanics and customers. The phone rings fairly regularly and the interview for this story is squeezed into the space between customer queries and requests for keys and parts from the mechanics. If it's this busy in a sleet storm, then business must be good, which indicates that somebody knows what they are doing.

The somebody in question is the owner of Triple 'T' Transmissions Stuart McKay. Stuart grew up in Palgrave Ontario, which is near



Stuart McKay

Bolton. "I knew a guy by the name of Al Bunn, who had a transmission business since '81," Stuart explains. "The name of his business was Triple 'T' Transmissions, and he worked out of Holland Landing, with his brother. I was also working in the transmission business in Newmarket. I worked for Mr. Transmission there for 17 years. Anyway, Al eventually moved Triple 'T' Transmissions up to Haliburton County, to this very spot, which he built, and where he worked for 14 years. Four years ago I moved up and began working for him. Over the years we talked about me taking over, and that eventually happened on August 1st of this year. I kept the name, but I'm the new owner."

"We service transmissions on all types of personal vehicles, commercial and

construction equipment, and we do general repairs as well-brakes, exhausts, tune-ups and safety's," explains Stuart. "Al had an established client base, and I have built on that. We're a bit out of the way here, in Irondale, but you



know, word of mouth gets around, and we have people coming from Bobcaygeon, Barry's Bay, Algonquin Park, Minden, Haliburton and Wilberforce. A lot of garages don't build transmissions, they send them out. When people come to me I do the job myself, like it was my own vehicle. I'm honest, and I do an honest job, and charge a fair price." He continues, "There are so many different transmissions that I charge on time and materials. I go to all the upgrading seminars that are put on by our suppliers, so I'm up to date on everything."

"Our price for general repair is \$50/hr. Some of the older 3 speed transmissions we can rebuild for an average of about \$700, but

Triple T new owner cont'd... pg. 11...



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Triple T New Owner cont'd...



... from pg. 10

Pictured
(l to r)
Michael
Bunn, Stuart
McKay, and
Jeff Schultz

Michael
Bunn works
on one of the
cars in the
shop.



some of the new electronic control trannies with 4 and 5 speed automatics can be very time consuming to fix, and they might run up to \$3000," says Stuart, with confirmation coming from Jeff Schultz, a mechanic who works with him.

Stuart says it's virtually impossible to buy a new transmission for many models. You can get re-manufactured transmissions from Ford or GM, but they cost in the neighborhood of \$3600, and then you still have to pay for taking out the old one and installing the re-manufactured one. "So it's more cost effective to have us rebuild your transmission for you," states Stuart. "I offer a 2 year or 40,000 km warranty on personal vehicles, and on commercials I offer 1 year or 20,000 km."

Stuart and Jeff collaborate on giving us some tips about transmission care and maintenance. "Transmissions should be serviced every 60,000 km, which includes changing the transmission filter and fluid. This alone will increase the life of your transmission. Anybody towing anything heavier than a 4 by 8 box trailer, especially with a front wheel drive vehicle, should have an auxiliary transmission cooler, which helps cool the tranny, and prolongs it's life, as well as the life of the engine."

Along with Jeff Schultz who is a class A mechanic, and handles the electronic troubleshooting, Stuart MacKay also employs Michael Bunn, the previous owner's son. Michael does removal and replacement of transmissions, and general repairs.

"I want to be here for a long time," says Stuart. "I like my customers, and the people up here. The air is a lot fresher, and I really like it in the country, as opposed to the hustle and bustle of the Newmarket area." Well he looked pretty busy for a bad-weather day, so he's obviously doing something right. If your car has a sick transmission, go see Stuart and the boys over at Triple 'T' Transmissions. They can be found at 9225 County Rd. 503, or call them at (705) 447-3456.

Scientifically Speaking



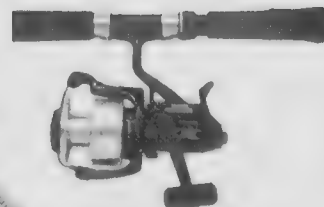
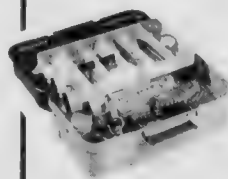
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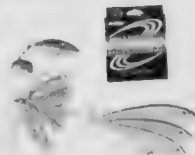
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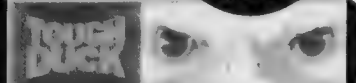
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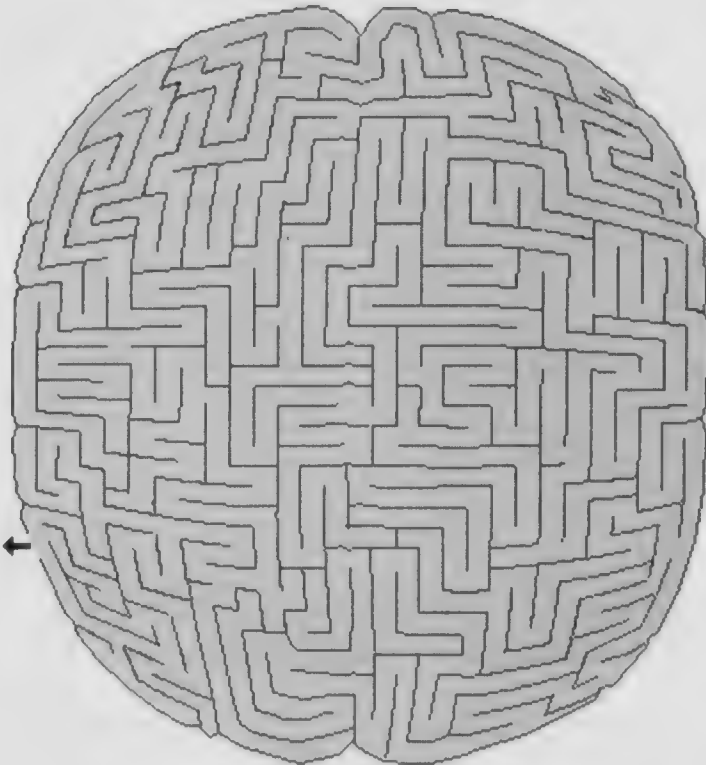
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Sign up for the 2nd half of the season that begins in January takes place on December 15th. No experience is necessary, so come and try it out. We have free instructions on Friday December 29th and Saturday December 30th from 10 - 4. All you need is clean running shoes.

There is so much to take part in, such as: Jan 2 (Evening leagues) and January 2 (Daytime Senior leagues); and Men's, Ladies Mixed Junior and Senior Leagues.

There are full, half and social memberships available. As well, if you're not a pro, don't worry, instruction is also available.

There is so much taking place during the season - you won't want to miss a beat. From great socials, to fun days, bonspiels, golf tournaments and banquets... this sport is definitely more than great exercise and a great way to pass the winter months away.

For more information, you may contact: Pauline Pollard at 286-1590 (daytime leagues) or Dave Blakey at 286-2035 (evening leagues).

To register contact: Tom Davidson 489-2641 (daytime league) or Doug Brown 286-4380 (evening leagues)



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The Haliburton School of The Arts Student Art Show and Sale

The students at the Fleming College's Haliburton School of The Arts will be showcasing their beautiful works from the fall semester on Saturday December 16th from 10am-4pm.



Drawing and Painting Certificate student Wilf Jones practices wire sculpture. All students work will be on display at the Student Show and Sale - Dec. 16th at the Haliburton School of The Arts. Photo by Angela Deluce

Don't miss this great opportunity to meet the artists, view, or purchase: photographs, paintings, drawings, textile works, ceramics, and artist blacksmith creations.

Visitors will be able to tour the new campus and take a winter walk through the phenomenal Haliburton Sculpture Forest in Glebe Park, which features seventeen outdoor works of art by Canadian sculptors.

This event is free and all are welcome! Find that perfect holiday gift or just enjoy the vibrant creative atmosphere. The student show and sale has been running for five years at the Haliburton Campus of Fleming College and is an opportunity for people to explore

the campus and interact with the students and their art.

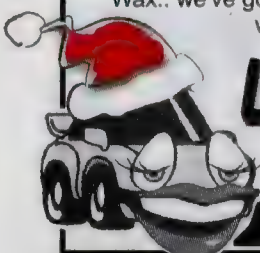
For those interested in exploring their artistic potential, stay on the lookout for the Summer Workshop Index coming out March 1st, 2007, and in the Communicator for the part time studies page. The Haliburton School of The Arts offers a full range of over three hundred affordable workshops and courses running throughout the year in topics including Quilting, Bird Carving, Painting, Stained Glass, Chainsaw Operator, Timber Framing, Renewable Energy, Photography, Music, and Sculpture, to name a few.

For more information call (705)-457-1680 or view the website at www.haliburtonschoolofthearts.ca. See you at the sale!

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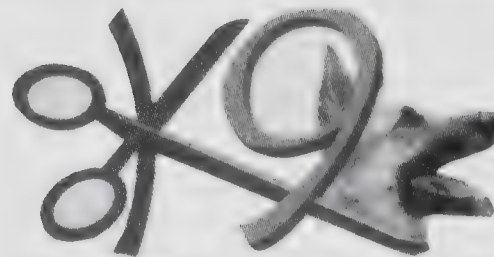


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Making a Spray: Minden Man Builds Boat to Sail The Atlantic

By George Farrell

Opening on a black screen, a few seconds of howling wind and the sounds of a tumultuous storm at sea are accompanied by crashing orchestral music. Out of the blackness there suddenly appears a small sailboat on a wild ocean. There is a lone sailor in the boat. He is Captain Joshua Slocum. He wrestles with the sails in the face of terrific winds and smashing waves. Looking back, he sees that he is not alone in the storm.

Slocum's point of view reveals another boat behind, chasing, and gaining on him. In a long shot both boats are little more than corks buffeted on the crests of the storm. A medium close-up reveals the captain is battling to reduce sail, in order to avoid capsizing or losing a mast. He looks back with real fear at the oncoming sailboat under full sail, because the boat chasing him is full of pirates.

Over the gale and music, a large crack is heard, as a mainmast snaps and collapses. Sails and mast go crashing into the sea. The confusion on the suddenly-stalled pirate's boat is revealed, as men attempt to cut away the mast and sail that are threatening to capsize their boat.

A cackle, an extended, almost sub human sound is heard above the gale, as a close-up reveals Slocum, now under reduced sail, laughing wildly at the pirates. He shakes his fist at them and then turns away and sails on, into the teeth of the storm, an enigmatic smile on his face. His seamanship; knowing when to reduce sail, and his ability to gauge the elements, has proved superior to the pirates' and the Spray, has steered him away from disaster.

The above was part of a video documentary treatment I was working on some years ago while toiling for a small production company. The treatment was to be in advance of the script about the real life sailor, Captain Joshua Slocum, and his reliable sailing vessel named the Spray. The Spray carried Slocum on his famous, solo, around-the-world-trip. Slocum, who was born on Brier Island, Nova Scotia, was the first man to accomplish the feat, completing the trip in 1898. The trip took three years.

In the treatment The Spray evolved to be as much a central character as the good captain, and so it has come to pass, that while over the years many people have forgotten, or have never heard of Slocum, the Spray endures, as a proven, and much-replicated sailing vessel.

For awhile I was very wrapped up in Slocum and the Spray, and even went on a mission to the eastern seaboard of the U.S. to research, and actually sail on a wooden Spray replica. But the option on the script, after a promising series of meetings with network executives, was not picked up, and the Spray was reduced to the recesses of my mind, as life, and new projects, had to be dealt with.

How surprising it was then, a few years later to discover, right here in Haliburton County, a would-be Slocum, who was building his very own Spray replica, in which to sail with his family, across the Atlantic. Enter David Treharne, and Dalekari.

David lives with his wife Karen on Hunter Creek Rd, just south of Minden. They have two children Mhairi 17, and Alex 14. Dalekari is a name made for the boat, by combining letters from all four family members. I first met David by chance, at the Wintergreen Maple syrup

Shack in Gelert about 3 years ago. One thing led to another, and we discovered that both of us had a knowledge of Slocum and the Spray, and David told me that he had plans to build a steel hulled Spray, and that he would eventually sail across the Atlantic, and visit the British Isles, from where he and Karen originally both came. Not knowing David very well at the time, I took it all with a grain of salt, until he called me several months later, and said that he had started building the boat. He also told me that he wanted a video record, with an aim to eventually constructing a documentary on the building of a steel hulled Spray. When he asked me if I would be interested in taping and producing the video, I jumped at the opportunity to rekindle my interest, and finally put to use my copious notes and research I already had on the subject. The documentary would consist of some of my video previously taken on the Spray replica, the construction of David's spray Dalekari, and interviews with David himself.

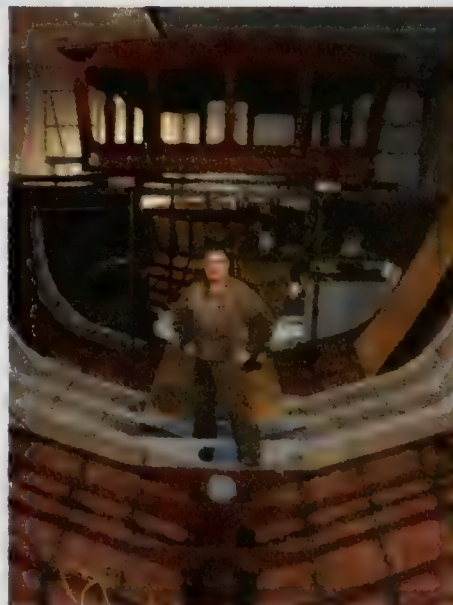
Now, it should be stated that David is a one of those men who are called fire plugs. He is all determination, and nothing seems too big a deal for him to tackle; and speaking of tackle, he is a former rugby player for the Toronto Nomads. In fact David, originally from Cwmbran in Wales met Karen, who hails from Clydebank Scotland, at a rugby game, where she was a spectator and where, David insists, she was "eyeing up the guys." David, with Karen's help owns and operates Express Radiant Inc, distributors of hydronic heating products.

What follows is extracted from video taped interviews with David Treharne, taken over the last 2 years, as the Dalekari takes shape.

"I am trained as a heating engineer, and now we are a distributor of radiators and valves to wholesalers across North America. I back packed through Asia and Australia, through North America and back to the UK. After that I quit my job in Wales, and moved to Toronto in the mid 80's. My wife Karen and I both came from small towns, and we weren't comfortable in a big city, so we moved up to the Minden area in January of 1990. It was a small town, and it was a good decision, as we can run the business from anywhere."

"I don't really know why, but it was always a boyhood dream to build a boat. Until now I never had the opportunity, the space or the tools. As the children have grown older it has given me more time to spend on my own hobbies."

"The evolution of our business has got to a stage where it is basically perpetual motion...I'm required to put out fires, to make sure everything runs smoothly, and to watch it as far as growth and any problems that might arise...it takes priority over the boat because its paying for the boat...we're located in the same building. If I need to run from the boat to



Making a Spray cont'd... pg. 16...

Making A Spray cont'd...

... from pg. 15

business, in seconds things will be taken care of. Karen can take care of all the administration and the ordering, and it works quite well actually."

"Building the boat was a joint decision Karen and I made together. She has been very supportive throughout the building of the boat. Karen looks after the business more than she used to which gives me more time to concentrate on building the boat."

"The challenge for me is to build something substantial from scratch...I wanted it exactly the way I wanted it with exactly the right amount of space, the kind of engine I wanted, and generator, the air conditioning and heating...its going to be quite a comfortable boat."

The beauty about this boat is that it can be a sailboat and it can be a powerboat...in the early stages I don't have the technical knowhow about sailing, and the engine is going to help me learn both. She will be powered by an



89 hp Caterpillar diesel marine engine, and she will have a 3kw caterpillar generator. (laughs) The funny thing is I know nothing about sailing. Part of the challenge is to learn something new. It like building the boat, I've never built a boat before and unless you try it you're never going to learn. There's a lot of people building Sprays who have web pages that you can check out, so it gives you confidence that you can do it, but the plans I obtained were easy to read and I never had to call the designer for help."

"The spray design was something I researched and stumbled upon to be honest. I was looking for a boat on the internet and came across the web sites of a number of boat builders. The Spray can be bought as a kit, where you can do it from full size patterns, as I did. Only later, when I had made up my mind that the Spray design was what I wanted did I discover that it was patterned after the boat that Joshua Slocum sailed alone around the world in. The geometry of the hull and the type of hull it is, enabled him to single handedly

circumnavigate the world, with virtually no navigational aids. I think that was a great credit to the design of the boat. It's a wide beamed shallow-draught craft. The original design comes from Norway, but it was used extensively off the New England States. It was originally designed as an oyster smack or sloop. It will enable me to get into places other boats won't get into. My boat will be able to go into waters as shallow as 6 feet. That's pretty shallow for the size of the boat. Also, when the tide goes out, it'll sit quite easily on sand bars without tilting over on it's side, because it doesn't have the traditional huge keel, but is more flat bottomed. So that's a very appealing aspect. It's very forgiving with steering and misuse, as I'm sure I will find out. Under full sail at 8 knots a Spray does not angle over much, and remains more level than most boats, so that's good if you want to live on a boat. It's more comfortable, and the width means there is more space than in traditional sailing boats."

At this point let me interrupt David's narrative to give some salient points of the sailing characteristics of a Spray. This excerpt was taken from the promotional material for the rejected documentary on Captain Slocum and the Spray.

Up to that point in history, yachting as we know it today did not exist, and in fact Slocum and the Spray can claim, to some degree at least, to be responsible for making sailing popular with the public at large. In the 1880's the thinking of the day was that if you wanted seaworthiness you made your boat as deep in the water as possible. That being the case, the Spray was the last boat in the world that a sailor would choose to circumnavigate the globe.

Spray, like all oyster sloops, was built very wide, and not very deep, to accommodate shallow waters off the coast, where oysters were located. Of course, in high winds, not being deep, and unable to "grip" the water, the Spray and her contemporaries would have a tendency to be blown sideways across the surface. In such conditions the various sails would come into play and the judgement and skill of the captain would be critical.

So, Slocum sailed the oceans in a boat that was "wrong" for the job. This attests to Slocum's brilliance as a sailor. But, it also says a lot about the design of the Spray, for whereas she did not cut through the waters, she did float like a cork. At times, she was able to withstand the weathers because she offered little resistance and "slid" across the water.

In effect, Spray, like a bumblebee that logistically defies flight, created a new paradigm for sailing vessels. It is this, as much as anything that makes the boat an important contributor to history.

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Making A Spray cont'd... pg. 17...

Making A Spray cont'd...

... from pg. 16

David continues. "My boat maintains the same proportions to the original Spray, its just longer and wider because we just wanted more space for accommodation. So it has the same sailing characteristics. There are many sail configurations. Slocum added a sail half way around his voyage. The mast configuration is very important, and because the mast or masts have to be secured as part of the structure of the boat, I will have to sit down with a sailmaker to determine how I will secure the mast to the boat."

"A Spray can be built to many specs', it's up to individual. The design is used in many parts of the world to make island freighters, and as a family getaway boat. There are up to 20,000 Sprays out there right now, sailing or being built. Our boat will have 3 state rooms, 2 bathrooms, a large salon and the pilot house, but that configuration will likely change as I go along."

"I looked at every conceivable material for building boats; concrete, fibreglass, steel, carbon, nickel, wood of course. I looked at all the pros and cons and steel came out way ahead. It's very durable and it's the most forgiving material to work with as far as construction. If you make a mistake, it's very easy to fix. If you buckle it you can reform it and get it flat again. As long as you keep the corrosion at bay, which is part of the boat building experience, it will probably outlast any of the other materials."

"The biggest obstacles I've had to overcome? Well, there are several. First of all I had to build a bigger work space to accommodate the boat and the hoists and equipment. Then when the boat was plated we had to turn it over, so that we could install the engine and generator, and work on the inside of the hull. The reason that we started to build the boat in the upside down position was so that we would not have to work above our heads welding, and we wouldn't be fighting gravity. So, the boat had to be manoeuvred outside where it was then turned over in a cradle. We used Haliburton Crane Rental for that, and they did a great job... no problems. The next biggest hurdle will be the transportation of the boat to lake Ontario. It'll be a problem because of the size. She will be approximately 50 ft long, whereas the original Spray was in the vicinity of 32 ft. She will be 13.5 feet high and 15 feet wide, and weigh approximately 21 metric tonnes. A boat-moving company in Pickering tells us that they can do it, but it will take a police escort."

"I've got a budget in mind over a period of time, which will include all the building materials, and the engine, the generator, and fitting out the electrics. I'm looking at about \$150,000 to get the boat in the water with the mast on. What that doesn't include is the navigation equipment, the satellite, tv, and all the fancy controls which I will eventually get in the boat. All that outfitting could be as much as another \$100,000 plus. You can make a Spray for much cheaper. I saw on the internet where some people had built one out of old oil tanks. But I'm doing it to the letter of the law, following guidelines and using really good equipment."

The total cost of course does not include the hundreds of hours David has spent in constructing his boat. While David has done the majority of work himself, he has had periodic help, when the business calls him away. "Richard Berry and Gary Nelson, are two of my employees that help me with the business, and also help out with the boat when needed,

they are multi-skilled kind of people," David explains. "Anthony Wiggins has also helped me quite a bit with welding."

"The advice I would give to anyone who wants to build a big boat is that you need a good space, and you need it close to your home. It is a very time consuming project. You need to get to your place of work very quickly from your work space, otherwise I can see it being all-consuming. In Canada, with our long, hard, cold winters, a heated, well-lit environment is essential."

David Treharne is a modern, well adjusted man, and the Dalekari will have all of the mod cons that the 21st century can provide, when she is finished, sometime in 2008. By the time he is ready to make his epic trip across the Atlantic with his family, David will know a lot more about sailing, and he will have the benefit of comfort, satellite tracking systems, and an engine for emergencies. He will not suffer the fate of Slocum and the original Spray.

Joshua Slocum on the other hand was a very troubled man. Boats powered by steam and internal combustion engines had replaced the age of sail. Unhappy with this, and his own state of affairs, and still with the wanderlust to sail the open seas, in November of 1909 he set sail once more, this time to search for the headwaters of the Amazon River. Neither he nor the Spray was ever seen again.



Pictured this page is David Treharne and the Dalekari, under construction. On the previous page is a Spray replica under sail taken from the Internet.

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Minden Subaru Expanding To Service Growing Market

by Stephen Patrick

Eleven years ago Charlie and Ethel Muli, proud owners of Minden Subaru, created a little bit of Haliburton history. For the previous 80 or so years the County's new car dealerships had offered only North American cars, or at least those sold by the big three, GM, Ford and Chrysler. But Charlie and Ethel, with a few decades of automotive retail experience behind them, were convinced that the community could support a 'foreign' car dealership. The problem was, most of the large foreign companies like Toyota and Honda didn't agree; and anyway, they already had existing dealerships in nearby communities like Huntsville, Peterborough and Lindsay.

But there was one, smaller Japanese automaker with an impressive history of niche marketing and a product that seemed specifically designed for Haliburton County. "Subaru had a number of successful dealerships in the state of Vermont," says Charlie, "and

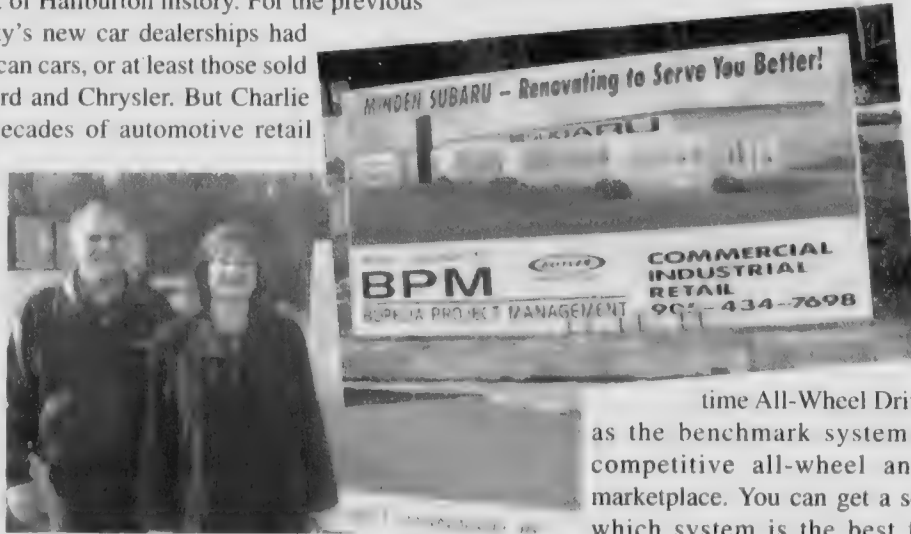
when we approached them we pointed out the similarities in geography, terrain, demographics, and tourism between Vermont and Haliburton. Not to mention,

of course, the six months of snow, ice and freezing rain we both enjoy! But still, it was a big step, for Subaru, and for us."

Subaru is the only car manufacturer that produces only all wheel drive vehicles. Its unique "Subaru Symmetrical full

time All-Wheel Drive System" is regarded as the benchmark system in the increasingly competitive all-wheel and four-wheel drive marketplace. You can get a serious argument about which system is the best from any number of automotive engineers, but you won't find anyone who doesn't admit that the Subaru's system is as good as there is.

Minden Subaru cont'd... pg. 19...



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To Register Contact

Daytime Leagues: Tom Davidson 489-3641

Evening Leagues: Doug Brown 286-4380

Minden Subaru cont'd...

... from pg. 18

"In 1995, when we officially opened Minden Subaru, there were only three Subarus registered in Haliburton County," says Charlie, "so we really were starting from scratch. But that year was also the first year of the Outback (Subaru's classy station-wagon/small SUV model) so it was the right time to start. And it was certainly clear that these cars were made for our driving conditions."

"They're such a safe and reliable automobile, and so terrific in the snow and ice," says Ethel, "that we knew they'd appeal to Haliburton's unique combination of retirees and winter weekend cottagers." And Charlie adds, "It took about four years to really establish ourselves. And it certainly helped that the actual product just kept getting better and better."

Subaru has carved out an interesting combination of market niches. In North Eastern North America it's become a lower-priced version of the Volvo, in other words a zesty, smart handling, but safe and efficient family car. In the West, particularly



California, it's known as a mean street racer with its awesomely fast Impreza WRX model, which outperforms many BMWs and even Porsches, at a fraction of the cost. "You really have to drive it on a proper race track to appreciate just how amazing a car this is," says Charlie, who had just that opportunity at a recent dealers meeting out west. "But I don't think it's going to be our top seller any time soon," he adds with a grin.

And now, after 11 years of hard work and success, Minden Subaru has embarked on a major 15000 square foot expansion. "The new facility will include a brand new, 5 car showroom, expanded private office space, and a really comfortable customer waiting area where we'll be offering Internet access along with the traditional newspapers and coffee."

Construction is well under way, and a spring Grand Opening is in the works. Minden Subaru's expansion also means new jobs in practically every area of the dealership, from Service to Sales. "We really enjoy our work, and we know we have a very happy workplace," says Ethel. "There's very little staff turnover, for example. And we're always willing to train."

Minden Subaru's success has had a real impact on Haliburton's automotive market place. Many residents have been reluctant to go the 'foreign' car route simply because there was no local dealers to provide the increasingly specialized service that modern cars demand. So the Muli's inevitably have many happy customers whose Subaru is the first foreign car they've ever owned. And the dealership's reputation for fairness and top rated service has also convinced many cottagers to deal locally – which is a real boost to our economy.

Minden Subaru is located at 13061 Highway 35 just a few kilometres north of Minden, and can be reached at 705 286-6126.

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Months that begin with Sunday will always have a Friday the 13th

One billion seconds is about 32 years.

One year contains 31,557,600 seconds.

One year is exactly 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes and 54.5 seconds.

Superstition says that the left side is the wrong side of the bed.

The average adult can read 150-200 words a minute

The University of Calgary offers a two-day course in igloo building

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When will a building actually become a built?



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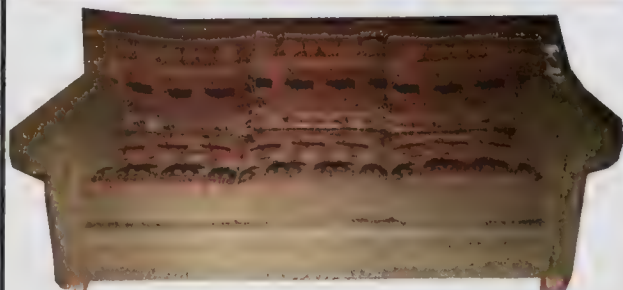
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Christmas 1950's Style - A Joyous Social Event

The Minden Hills Cultural Centre will be presenting Dylan Thomas and his Child's Christmas in Wales, on December 9th. Join all for a Christmas 1950's style. Enjoy seasonal refreshments, renew old friendships, finalize your bids on the Christmas items and enjoy the appearance of the poet Dylan Thomas on his North American Tour thanks to the magic of the Conjurors of the County Town. The winning bids for the trees and wreaths will be announced at the end of the evening. For more information call 286-3763.

No Need To Be Alone Christmas Day

A delicious complimentary Traditional Turkey Dinner for those alone at Christmas will be held Christmas Day starting at 4:00 pm with Eggnog and Carols followed by dinner at 5:00 p.m.

If you would like to attend, please call Chris Johnson at 489-2517.

There is no reason to spend Christmas alone this year. Enjoy both the great meal and wonderful company being offered by the Lakeside Baptist Church.

A Joyous Christmas Afternoon

If you are looking for something fun to do near Christmas while helping a great cause then you may want to check out "A Joyous Christmas Afternoon" - "Musical Open House" taking place at Stouffer Mill Bed & Breakfast on December 17th. View the festive decorations at the B&B and see the spectacular 16' Christmas tree with over 2000 lights. There will be live music from various performers under the direction of Melissa Stephens, and mulled cranberry juice and Christmas goodies to warm up all who attend.

The open house takes place from 2 - 4 pm, and admission is by donation to "Grandmothers To Grandmothers", a Stephen Lewis Foundation. For more information on the foundation, log on to www.stephenlewisfoundation.org.

To get to Stouffer Mill B&B, follow Hwy 35 to Halls Lake. Then take Stouffer Mill Road to the home (1KM).



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Can you spot the 11 differences?

For answers see pg. 32



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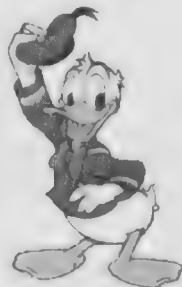


It's The Law!



In England, in 1865, a law was passed setting the speed limit for steam-driven coaches at four miles per hour!

An old law in Norfolk, Virginia, made it illegal for a woman to appear in public with out a corset!



A plague of fleas was exiled from seventeenth century Munster, Germany, for a period of ten years!

It was once against the law for anyone to bathe more than once a month in the state of Pennsylvania!

Donald Duck comics were once banned in Finland because the character doesn't wear pants!

CRAZY But True Law Suits

Calling All Plastic Surgeons...

Michelle Knepper of Vancouver, Wash. Knepper picked a doctor out of the phone book to do her liposuction, and went ahead with the procedure even though the doctor was only a dermatologist, not a plastic surgeon. After having complications, she complained she never would have chosen that doctor had she known he wasn't Board Certified in the procedure. (She relied on the phonebook listing over asking the doctor, or looking for a certificate on his wall?!) So she sued ...the phone company! She won \$1.2 million PLUS \$375,000 for her husband for "loss of spousal services and companionship."

Scott Applauds Community Fight For Frost Centre Pleased to See Efforts Create Positive Step to Re-Open Centre

Laurie Scott, MPP for Haliburton-Victoria-Brock, today expressed her appreciation to all those involved in pressuring the McGuinty Liberals to re-open the Leslie M. Frost Centre in Haliburton County.

The Ministry of Public Infrastructure Renewal indicated in a news release today that it has chosen the FCI Group as the preferred proponent to operate the Frost Centre.

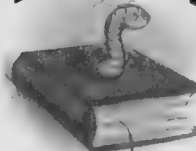
"I want to thank the Frost Centre Working Committee who put together an extensive proposal of guidelines, under which the Frost Centre should re-open," said Scott. "The Perma-Frost group was also instrumental and helped to draw much public attention and obtained more than 10,000 signed petitions, which I presented to the Legislature. They, along with myself and MPP Norm Miller, have worked tirelessly in order to pressure the government to re-open the Centre."

"Our combined efforts have made the government realize how important the Frost Centre is to this community and the thousands of people who visited it every year before it was closed in July of 2004."

The Ministry has established a re-opening target for the Frost Centre for June of 2007 and Scott says she will be the first person they hear from should that date not be met.

"I am pleased the Ministry has indicated that the Frost Centre is on track to re-open early next summer," said Scott. "I will continue to hold the government accountable on this matter as I'm confident this will ultimately carry on the Frost Centre's tradition of environmental and outdoor education."

Learn A



Word

Hackneyed

hak-ned\adj: lacing in freshness or originality.

Frank's early attempts at the poetry were filled with singsong rhymes and hackneyed expressions.

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Lange On The Law



by **Donald J. Lange**
Barrister & Solicitor

Double Satisfaction

It's a long way from Mick Jagger's early rock'n roll hit "I can't get no satisfaction" to the exciting doctrine of double satisfaction but here is the story. First of all, there has to be a lawsuit to get some satisfaction. If the claim in the lawsuit or the judgment based on the lawsuit has been satisfied by payment, that payment wipes out or destroys any case ("cause of action") against other persons who were in some measure responsible for the same loss. In other words, the person who suffered the loss cannot pursue a second payment because this constitutes an attempt at double recovery or double satisfaction and is barred by the courts.

A court decision illustrates the application of the doctrine of double satisfaction. The plaintiff sued an architect, a general contractor, and a roofer for building defects to a garage and roof. A separate allegation was made against the architect with respect to the driveway. The general contractor paid into court a sum of money in full satisfaction of the claims of the plaintiff against it for the garage and the roof and the plaintiff accepted it. The architect moved to strike out those portions of the statement of claim in which allegations were made against the architect with respect to the garage and roof. The action was successfully stayed with respect to the garage and roof claims because of the payment by the general contractor. The litigation was left with only the driveway problem between the plaintiff and the architect.

A party to a lawsuit may also acknowledge the satisfaction of a judgment by signing a document and filing it with the court. The document tells the public that the judgment has been paid. And Hey Mick! the legal document is actually called a "satisfaction piece."

In the next column, I will be talking about paternity.



bad predictions

"In the papers of Thomas Young I can find nothing which deserves the name either of experiment or discovery. I deem them destitute of every species of merit. The Royal Society is to be censured for printing such paltry and unsubstantial papers."
- Lord Henry Peter Brougham (1778-1868) on the originator or the wave theory of light

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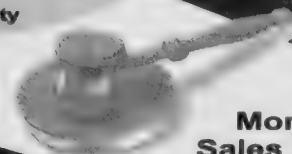
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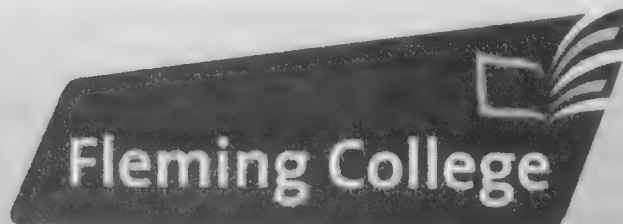
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Silver Stick's Welcome Teams From All Over Ontario

by Stephen Patrick

The next two weekends mark the fourth annual Silver Stick Regional Tournament, hosted by the Haliburton Storm Minor Hockey Association. During the four days of competition (December 9th and 10th for the Atom and Pee wee teams, December 16th and 17th for the Bantam and Midgets) 32 teams from all over Ontario will compete for a chance to go to the Finals Tournament held in January.

The Silver Stick competition was the brainchild of Ottawa area hockey fan Jack Kinsella back in the 1950s. Kinsella wanted to put together an international tournament for Ontario and New York State Pee wee and Bantam players as a way to further international good will. The 'Silver Stick' name came from the event's original trophy, literally a long, silver hockey stick. Over the years the event has grown to include Atom, Novice, Midget, Juvenile and Intermediate teams of both boys and girls. Last year over 65,000 players and coaches participated in Regional Tournaments in towns and cities from Portland, Oregon to Alpharetta, Georgia and St. Clair Shores to Lucknow, Oshawa, and so on.

In the spring of 2003 Silver Stick Deputy Commissioner (and long-time Haliburton cottager) Delmer Rints took in the annual local Glen Dart House League Tournament. Thoroughly impressed by what he saw, he soon contacted Highland Storm volunteer Wade MacInnes to see if the Storm would be interested in hosting an annual Regional tournament. Wade and the Storm Executive then began the long process of preparing the application, which included slide shows of our arenas, restaurants, motels, lodges and tourist attractions.

"We finally took our presentation to the Silver Stick Annual General Meeting in June of 2003 in Newmarket," remembers Wade. "The presentation was strongly supported by letters from then

County Warden Murray Fearrey, as well as by our ex-NHLers Walt McKechnie, Ron Stackhouse and Glen Sharpley. There were nine other applicants from minor hockey associations from all over North America, and the Highland Storm were one of only two associations to be sanctioned."

The Highland Storm Regionals have become increasingly popular since then as visiting teams have seen how accommodating and beautiful the area is and how well organized the tournament is. "Now teams start to apply in August to make sure they have a place," says Wade proudly. "Each visiting team pays between \$750 and \$800 dollars to enter, which guarantees them at least three games on the Saturday, plus a semi-final and final on the Sunday if they qualify. As well, each local player's family is responsible for finding sponsorship for one hour of ice time (at a cost of



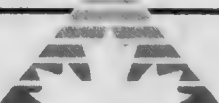
Highland Storm Atom AE team that is in the Silver Stick

\$60)."

Each team also organizes raffles, silent auctions, and cleaning up the change rooms between games, and general tournament administration. Like so many successful Haliburton events, the Silver Stick is a result of a ton of local volunteer effort and business support.

Wade also points out what a boost the Silver Stick is to the local economy: "We don't get a lot of tourists in early December, it's really the off season. So this is a really welcome boost to our local economy – as well as providing some great hockey, and a chance for our kids to take on competition from all over Ontario."

So for some great hockey come out to either the Haliburton or the Minden arena on either the Saturday or the Sunday to cheer on our Storm teams. Round Robin games start at 8 am on the Saturday, and the semi finals at the same time Sunday. Admission is free, but don't forget, there are those raffles and great silent auctions available. (And Christmas is coming!) Wade also asks that that local businesses and private citizens consider putting up "Welcome Silver Stick Teams" signs to show how much our community supports the event.



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Marjorie Ludlow Green Announces Updated Edition Of How-To-Write / Action-Adventure Novel

Marjorie Ludlow Green is pleased to announce the updated, second printing of her *How-to-Write / Action-Adventure Novel: "Spywriter: Licensed To Write"*.

When first published in 1998, "Spywriter" was an immediate sell-out. Why? Because this highly motivational book is both instructional and amusing – a silly fiction runs through it. Making "Spywriter" unlike any "how-to-write" book you have ever read! Stylistic editor, writing coach and freelance journalist, Marjorie Ludlow Green has trained and motivated hundreds of writers since 1987.

In "Spywriter: Licensed to Write", the author invites us into her classroom where, drawing on the misadventures of Master Spy and wannabe writer, Steve Bond, she guides us through just about everything you ever wanted to know about writing, including: Thinking Like a Writer ~ Researching ~ Finding Ideas ~ Setting Goals ~ Grammar & Punctuation ~ Fiction Techniques ~ Marketing & Selling your Work ~ Contests & Novels ~ Memoirs, Essays & Business Writing ~ Copyright & Plagiarism ~ and even 20 Different Ways of Styling a Sentence!

Here, in one funny book, is everything you need to know about the craft of writing, the North American writing industry, and how to build your own writing business from scratch. And all for only \$20 (plus mailing, if required). Interested? Contact Marjorie Green at (705) 286-2592 or marjorie.ludlow-green@sympatico.ca.

About Marjorie Ludlow Green:

Marjorie Green is an editor, author, journalist and business writer. She is also a writing coach, teacher and seminar leader who has trained and motivated hundreds of aspiring writers over the past 19 years. Before turning to freelance writing, her careers included bank teller, insurance clerk, floral designer and executive assistant. For ten years she was co-owner of a printing company, managing a one-woman office. But it wasn't until 1987 that Marjorie decided to pursue her dream to be a writer.

Intense personal study, and a night school course, led to the development of her own marketable writing style. Her first sale came within a year – to a national magazine. On the strength of that sale, and with a firm belief in her God-given talents, Marjorie walked away from a comfortable job as an executive assistant in the Toronto insurance company that had employed her for 13 years... and became a



Marjorie Ludlow Green

freelance writer.

Since then, her work has appeared in major and regional newspapers and magazines. An editor of books, magazines and newsletters, Marjorie was also managing editor of an award-winning community newspaper in Pickering – *The Original Bay News* – from 1995 – '96.

A three-time runner-up in the Toronto Star Short Story Contest, Marjorie has enjoyed teaching Creative Writing to young people through her innovative *Kidwriters* and *Teenwriters* programs, and to adults and seniors at various centres in Durham Region and Haliburton County. She has organized seven writers' circles for

Marjorie Green cont'd... pg. 27...

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Marjorie Ludlow Green Cont'd...

... from pg. 26

adults, and in 1995, founded a large non-profit organization, *The Writers Circle of Durham Region*. She is co-founder of two additional organizations: *Mississauga's Writers' and Editors' Network* (2001), and *The Haliburton Highlands Writers' and Editors' Network* (2003).

Marjorie's work has included PR and marketing, web and ad copy writing, speech and ghostwriting, press releases and dozens of "showbiz bios" for Country and Western singers (including the great Hank Snow and Kitty Wells). As a substantive and stylistic editor, she has worked with many authors who have seen publication of their books. A published author and poet, her work has appeared in three anthologies and a local history, *'A Town Called Ajax'*, released by the town in 1995. Her "how-to" book on writing, *'Spywriter: Licensed to Write'*, originally published in 1998, is now available for purchase in an updated version published in 2006. In 1999 and 2000, she was *Writer in Residence* for the Canadian Authors Association, Toronto and Central Ontario Branch. She is a former member of the Editors' Association of Canada and currently sits on the board of the Arts Council of Haliburton Highlands.

Nominated in 1991 for the YWCA's *Durham Woman of the Year Award*, for her writing efforts on behalf of women's issues, Marjorie has served as a volunteer on many boards over the past 18 years. In 1999, she was presented with an *Ontario Volunteer Service Award* from the Province of Ontario for her ongoing involvement in historical preservation and stewardship.

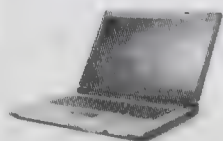
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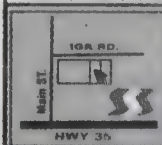


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John Doe



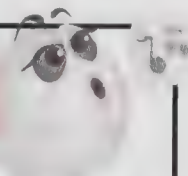
Joyce C. Hall was raised in Nebraska by his mother. His father left home when Hall was nine. In 1910, Hall headed to Kansas City to seek his fortune. He was armed with two shoeboxes full of picture postcards he hoped to sell to dealers throughout the Midwest. After only a few years, the postcard business had expanded enough to allow his bothers Rollie and William to join him and open a specialty store for postcards and stationery. Then Hall decided that selling Christmas cards with envelopes might be more profitable. He decided to call his company Hallmark, a play on his name and the word for quality.



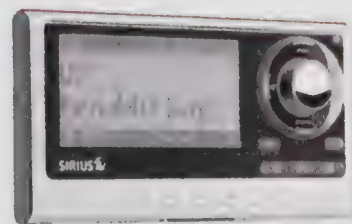
The word hallmark dates back to the year 1300, when gold and silver were marked for quality at Goldsmith's Hall in London. Coins of quality received a "Hall mark." The first Hallmark card appeared in 1916. It featured the greeting "I'd like to be the kind of friend you are to me." One of the innovations that made Hallmark so successful, however, had nothing to do with the sentiments contained in the cards. In 1936, Hall introduced display cases that featured rows of cards that the customer could browse. Previously, cards were purchased by asking a clerk to choose an appropriate card.

When Hall died in 1982, the company he had founded was worth \$1.5 billion. These days, more than 10 million Hallmark cards are sold each year "All I was trying to do was make a living," Hall once said. "In those days, if you didn't work, you didn't eat. And I like to eat."

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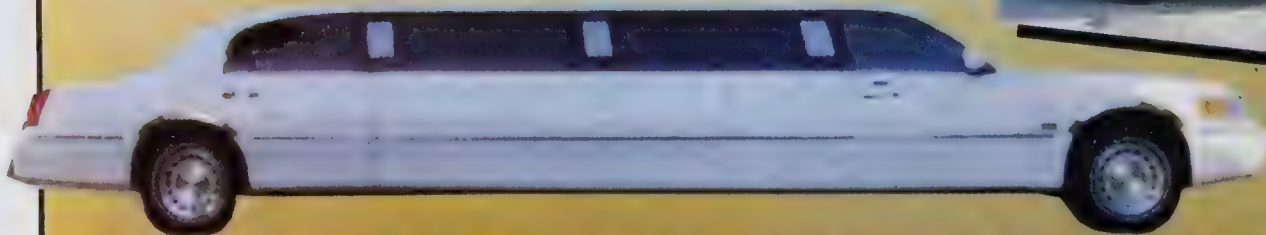
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Now's The Time To Give Ox Narrows A Try... You Won't Be Disappointed

By Stephen Patrick

Shirley and Derek Johannessen took over the Ox Narrows Lodge in May of this year, and have spent the intervening seven months in a whirlwind of renovations, improvements, and just plain hard work.



And now it's beginning to pay off. "We're delighted by the response we've had to our new menus, and to the renovations we've made to our cabins, rooms and store,"

says Derek. "And we're primed and ready for the Christmas season with lots of private parties planned already. And don't forget we're going to have a great New Year's Eve party, with two dining room sittings."

The Ox Narrows Lodge is all of 93 years old, and the main dining room/bar is one of Haliburton's most welcoming and unique rooms. So any renovations have to be considered carefully, to say the least. "We are going to renovate the room, perhaps change the actual bar location, but of course we'd never touch those beautiful walls – the atmosphere is so warm and welcoming our guests feel at home as soon as they walk in," says Shirley. "We know we're in charge of a very special place."

And with a very special new menu and chef, as well. This fall local Chef Craig Elstone joined the Ox Narrows team, to the delight of many. Craig's concentrating on Premium Steaks and Pasta, as well as producing "comfort zone" foods and a great range of 'hand-made' pizzas. Steaks are all Alberta Premium AAA and include Filet Mignons, New York Strips, Ribeyes and T-Bones. He offers a great tasting Wild Mountain Rib-Eye featuring a wild mushroom ragout and a rich demi-glaze, along with Garlic Shrimp and Scallop Linguine, Chicken Madagascar and Chicken Tetrazini, and a Linguine Primavera.

Ox Narrows is right on the Snowmobile Trail 16, and welcomes all Sledgers and their families. Permits are available, along with gas, and full snowmobile repairs and maintenance. "We're also going to be renting machines as well this winter, but make sure to phone ahead," says Derek. "We decided we really had to take our snowmobilers seriously, and we're anxious to provide whatever services they need."

The Ox Narrows Lodge and Restaurant is open Thursdays and Fridays from 12 noon until 9 pm, Saturdays and Sundays from 9 am until 9 pm. Thursdays features Wings specials, and Friday and Saturdays Prime Rib is a feature. And of course, the Lodge is open for private parties on any night of the week. For reservations and further information please call Shirley at 705 489-3885. The Ox Narrows Lodge is located on Highway 35 on Kushog Lake.

*Shirley & Derek Johannessen
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The Herald's Time Has Come

Ryan Dawson answers the irresistible call to a timeless adventure

By Lea Harper

One senses Ryan Dawson has lived his life close to the earth, that he'd be just as comfortable in the bush as he would directing a stage production. He is still very much involved with Wintergreen Maple Products, the family business in Gelert. One thousand trees are tapped. A stunning menagerie of bottles and jars filled with preserves, sauces, fruit and maple syrups line the walls in the shop's anteroom. Downstairs, meals are served, upstairs, live music – Jazz and Blues. The building itself is a work of art, pieced together board by board from an old barn. The décor is a testament to the rural culture of the area. Ryan was born and raised here. When he tells you, "There's a natural, dynamic relationship between man and nature," you know he's experienced this in a visceral, fundamental way. Wintergreen is a seasonal affair and as such affords Ryan the time he needs to pursue his passion for writing. This playwright, actor, poet and musician thrives on the creative and

collaborative process. "It's a great feeling when you write something and it's interpreted. It takes on a life of its own."



Ryan's interest in theatre began in high school. Before long, he was putting pen to paper. "The Delicate Balance," performed at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion a couple of years ago, interpolated music and dance with theatre. It's the journey of "an archetypal seeker" and his encounters with a knarly old man — a street prophet. The Delicate Balance is about "mastering the staff," a martial arts term that suggests the play's title and intimates the strength and self control that is necessary to survive the gauntlet of experience.

"The Herald" is Dawson's newest play. It opens for two shows at the Northern

Lights Performing Arts Pavilion on Saturday December 16th. Set in a primordial, dark age, "in a land of mystery awash in the deluge of turmoil", the people eke out a meager existence "and wonder," Ryan says, "as they regard the grand statues of the preceding generation, whether they are living up to their spiritual past." Historically, such times are ripe for the appearance of a

Ryan Dawson cont'd... pg. 31...



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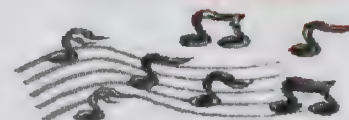
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messenger, someone who will usher in a new era. The Herald may not be a person at all. Dawson's not giving that much away but he does offer a few metaphors: "He's the whisper behind the thought, the itch you can't scratch," which is somehow concurrent with "the shadow" Jung referred to, the signal in dreams, that Ryan says are "incubated and forgotten."

Rising from the mists of antiquity in this feudal landscape are a princess, two guards and a lady in waiting. The medieval mindset might seem fantastical to us. Through a distant mirror, it is a world steeped in magic where the mythological bleeds into everyday life and the mystical and the mundane overlap and inform one another. Ryan has been careful to create a balance. "They are not mutually exclusive." Still, the Herald midwives a difficult rebirth. "Some will see him as a messiah, others as

the destroyer," Ryan says, but he's a necessary catalyst for change, the interloper who forces the characters to confront their fears, examine their relationship with authority and with each other. "It's not all heavy-handed," he insists. It's also human...a romance."

Dawson has chosen a timeless theme to launch his story and admits the play could as easily be set in the future as the past. "There are parallels between then and now." We are still bound by forces greater than ourselves. "How much are we in control?" he asks, "and how much is pre-determined? It's a crucible for everything." Do we trust and surrender, or dread and do battle? "Nature is not bound by parameters. You don't ask winter why it had to come. A cyclone is neither negative or positive." Using the forest fire as an analogy, Ryan continues, "It's about renewal and regeneration. Nature will make it happen."

Ryan has been involved with this production from the ground up. "Theatre is great. It challenges you creatively in every possible direction." He finished the play in August. It's been in rehearsal four months. Including lights and music, there are ten people involved in the production. Along with Ryan, the actors are Kathryn Boyd, Mike Johnson, Erin Lynch and Greg Luck. Nick Russell has written the musical score. "It's moody and exotic."



He'll play live in the interlude between scenes. The pre-recorded segments will be heard during intermission and post-show.

Ryan Dawson is a man of many talents and he's making his presence felt in the community. He loves to jam with local musicians. He attends the monthly Writers' Workshop in Minden, facilitated by celebrated playwright, Michael Fay. He's playing Alan Ginsberg at the Dominion Hotel on December 9th for the Beatnik Bongo Poetry Reading. (It's ironic that Ryan should name Walt Whitman as a influence. Whitman was Ginsberg's mentor.) Even so, Dawson says he's equally inspired by "the small stuff. What people do just for the sake of it." Creativity springs from "a sense of wonder." He wants to live "an authentic life and do justice to the experience." "How do I figure in to it?" he asks, "What's behind this personality? ...you come up wanting." Is he thinking of our common future

when he says: "You look around...how can this be sustained?" As an artist? "You never quite say what you wanted to express. That's what keeps you going."

Perhaps because the playwright is also a drummer, he knows a thing or two about timing, about the natural rhythms of life. At 25, Ryan is asking all the right questions and he's drawing from a deep well. The Herald's time has come. You don't want to miss this one.

The Herald is playing for two shows at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion, Saturday December 16th – a matinee at 2PM and an evening performance at 8PM. Call 286-3202 to reserve.



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Spot the Difference Answers.... from pg. 21

The U is bus is smaller
The guy's nose is smaller
Reindeer's right hoof is gone
Guy's mouth is bigger
Santa's button is gone
Bottom is bus stand is gone
Santa's mouth is gone
Guy has hair
Guy has pocket in jacket
Reindeers antler is different shape
Gentleman's hat band is yellow

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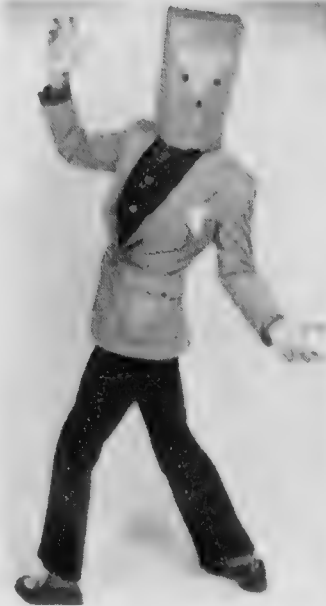
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Where Are They Now??

Murray Langston "The Unknown Comic"



Name: MURRAY "The Unknown Comic" LANGSTON
Birth Date: I searched and searched and could not find anything on the date or where he was born.

Info: Murray had been a comic for a long time and had appeared in countless shows like "Laugh-In" and "Sonny & Cher". But it wasn't until he put a bag over his head, donned a plaid jacket with white buck shoes to become the Unknown Comic that his career took off

and resulted in a huge cult following.

He did a lot of behind the scenes and comedy work after the Gong Show. In Las Vegas' and produced a cable show "The Unknown Comedy Hour".

He wrote a couple screenplays starring Linda Blair: "Night Patrol" and "Up Your Alley", the former also starred Yakov Smirnoff and the latter starred Ruth Buzzi.

Why The Unknown Comic?: The "Gong Show" was very popular and Murray decided to appear on it because he needed the money. However, he didn't want his friends to know how desperate he had become, so in order to keep from being recognized... he decided to place a "Paper Bag" over his head, memorized a few old jokes... and voila..."The Unknown Comic" was born.

Family Life: Divorced with one child. He quit show business to raise his daughter.

Trivia: A regular guest comedian on the show "Make Me Laugh" as both the Unknown Comic and Murray Langston. Appeared on "The Dating Game" as one of the bachelors who was actually picked to date by actress Louisa Moritz in 1973. Murray also starred in another show for the Playboy Channel, "The Sex & Violence Family Hour" with then unknown Jim Carrey.

Where Are They Now: He recently came out of retirement to appear in the George Clooney flick "Confessions of a Dangerous Mind" and "Levity" with Billy Bob Thornton. He is also working on a series of comedy books and CD's.



Live Music is Alive & Well in Haliburton County

By *Barrie Martin*

The Haliburton County Folk Society is making changes to its Open Stage schedule. It will now present one Open Stage per month. The open stages held at the York St. Internet Café in Haliburton, across from the Rails End Gallery will now be held on the third Saturday of every month starting in the new year.

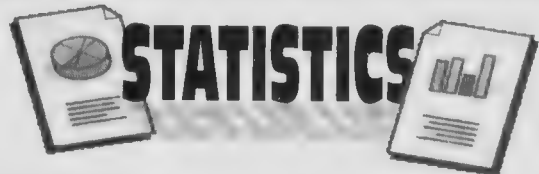
Open Stages are alive and well in Haliburton. December was a great month for celebrating for local and guest musicians. Mark Christiano is back at the Hair Lounge in Carnarvon on the second Saturday of every month. On November 11, an enthusiastic gathering of folks enjoyed a great lineup of performers - Mark and Claudette, Mandy Newell, Jordon Brown, Ryan Dawson, Kris Kadwell, April Gates, and Barry Hayward to name a few.

On November 16, the Haliburton County Folk Society held an Open Stage at the York Street Café in Haliburton. The featured performer was recording artist Darcy Lynne Ward (www.darcylynneward.com), a very talented singer/song writer from the Midland area. On a blog after her visit to Haliburton she wrote, "These folks are among the warmest, receptive music lovers I've yet to play for in all my years. Kris Kadwell, from Canoe FM (who happens to be playing my record...) hosted the evening. I love these folks, and it looks like they may be having me back for a concert at their club. I met some new friends here, and hope to meet them again soon including Bob (the Haliburton Santa Claus who bought a CD for his new sweetie Cynthia— thank you)."

After a great set by Darcy, the fifty or so people in attendance enjoyed performances by local musicians. Bethany Houghton of Devils Lake wowed the audience performing classical, Cajun and Beatle tunes on cello and violin. Dave Bathe, in the style of Tom Waits, sang a song he wrote about his wife getting angry at him over a dream she had. Cass Marie presented beautifully strong vocals and several original songs; she is currently recording in Ian Pay's sound studio. All joined in as Scott belted out a couple of Johnny Cash tunes. Ted Robinson left the crowd "hurtin'" with a couple of country classics. Louise and Friends (Louise Barry, John Menzies, Peter Smith and Linda Salvatori) soothed souls with easy listening harmonies. The grand finale with an impromptu band (April Gates, Kris Kadwell, Ian Pay and Bethany Houghton) left the audience wanting more. But it was 11:00pm and time to go. All left with a greater appreciation of the tremendous talent and diversity of music present in the community.

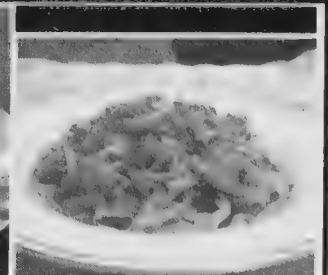
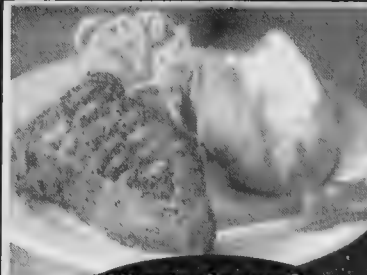
Again, the next Open Stage in Haliburton will be December 2nd. The music starts at 8:00pm. Be part of the audience or perform on stage. Admission is only \$2. All ages welcome. The admission fee goes towards renting the facility, supporting equipment purchases and the concert series, and an annual music bursary to a graduating student at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School. For more details, call (705)754-FOLK(3655) or email info@haliburtonfolk.com. See also www.haliburtonfolk.com. The next Open Stage in Carnarvon is December 9th. For more information contact Mark at markchristiano@rogers.com.

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Songs in the Key of Life

by Lea Harper

Justin Hie and Andy Nesbitt's musical relationship goes back almost eight years. Like most accomplished musicians, they have survived numerous band incarnations and could probably play any style of music you asked them to. Their heavy metal band, 'Through the Ages' performed again in Toronto at 'The Cathedral', a couple of weeks ago. The group, which includes Greg Luck, John Horsdy and Chris Boxall, has been together for a few years and practices faithfully twice a week in Minden. Even through the tiny viewfinder on the video cam, there's no mistaking the high energy output on stage. You have to be in shape to do this kind of music. "We considered yoga," Andy says with a smirk, "but settled on heavy metal...for the aerobics."

Less than two years ago, Justin and Andy began turning their writing skills to something entirely different. Although both own a fleet of stringed instruments and are proficient on guitar, bass, drums and keyboards, they began collaborating on songs intended for acoustic guitar and voice. There's something hauntingly familiar about the songs Justin Hie and Andy Nesbitt write and yet no easy

Justin Hie and Andy Nesbitt create Dark Folk and Free Hope – their own original brand of acoustic music



Justin & his guitar collection



comparisons leap to mind. Certainly, the counterpoint of two acoustic guitars and voices weaving in and out of unison and harmony casts a certain spell. But it's more than that. Justin refers to their brand of music as "Dark Folk". It's not the protest music of the 60s – a music eventually drowned out by 70's disco and 80's glitter rock — but a folk music that has grown exponentially from its exposure to Punk,

Grunge, Trance and Rap. It's a music that could only be made by the voices of the new millennium, a generation faced with challenges unprecedented in the history of our planet. Minstrels are the ones we count on to gauge the emotional

climate of a generation.

They keep an ear to the ground, charting the rumblings of discontent and the stirrings of truth. Their music often percolates just below the crust of commercialism — which is not to say that Dark Folk is necessarily subversive but this sort of confrontation with reality is bound to stir up some raw emotions. The songs will reflect the sorrow of the times and perhaps even a sense of futility.

It's the intimacy of acoustic music that attracts Justin and Andy. "We want people to hear the songs," Justin says. And although there's some fine, intricate guitar work going on, they want to keep the guitars "simple and pretty. It's about creating a vibration for the voice," he says. Andy can surely belt out a tune, but here, the singing is soft and sweet — two falsettos smoothly blended. Even through despair, the songs are surprisingly soothing. Neither of them put much store in band names but the one they've landed on is "Tommy Rogers and the Free Hope". When the phrase popped out of Andy's mouth, it threw Justin into a protracted fit of laughter. But the name stuck. It has a powerful ring to it. Tommy Rogers could be anyone — the 'everyman', and free hope — a universal mantra.

The duo's songs are essentially personal reflections, Justin dubs "human". "This misery I take in stride," are the bridge lyrics in "Heartless." Their songs speak of the sometimes "meaningless search for self-worth" which is a crying out for reason and fulfillment. "We want people to know it's okay to feel these things. Don't hide them. Express yourself freely," Andy says, "You are not alone."

When Tommy Rogers and the Free Hope first started, they had a percussionist — Kurt Dehan — who eventually left for Alberta. All along, Andy and Justin have been digitally recording their songs at home on the computer. Even when transferred to a multi-

Justin and Andy cont'd... pg. 35...



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Justin Hie and Andy Nesbitt Cont'd...

... from pg. 34

track studio with the luxury of a large console, the guys might only add hand drums and a bit of bass. They want to minimize production, maintain "an organic sound" – "even the flaws" because that's what keeps it real. Sometimes they record the sounds of what's going on around them, letting crickets, cars or rain underscore the songs. When Justin needs inspiration he only has to step out his door and into the woods to find it. Justin and Andy now live less than a mile from each other, in rented houses close to Kennisis Lake.

Justin was born in Kingston, Ontario to a musical family. He grew up listening to "a lot of classic rock... The Eagles, The Steve Miller Band..." His mother inspired him, he says. Andy, on the other hand was driven by "a lack of music". Andy began life in Lindsay. Music was expressly forbidden at his parents' home for religious reasons. He had to sneak a friend's keyboards and tape machine into his room so he could write and record in secret. When Andy (who played a lot of hockey in those days) was 18, his father lost his job. The upside was, his dad finally relented. It was cheaper to buy his son a guitar than new hockey equipment.

Andy and Justin have been in Haliburton County most of their lives. Andy lives with wife, Charleen and son, Anthany (his spitting image) who is in grade five. Justin and Andy have full time day jobs. Andy works for the Haliburton Forest and Wildlife Reserve at the Echo Log Concept Mill where he does Product Design. Justin was hired by Everitt's Enterprises to drive heavy machinery – primarily an excavator – and is residential project manager on various sites. "The hardest part about working so much is finding time to practice," Justin says. The goal is to someday support themselves as musicians. For now, they get together when they can. And it's good therapy. "We play music and learn so much about ourselves. Spending an hour with Andy is cheaper than a psychiatrist." They both laugh.

They've done a lot for the music scene locally. Justin has organized a number of 'Battle of The Bands' over the years – at the Haliburton and Minden arenas, (twice billed as "The Cause"), and at the Carnarvon Bowling Alley. He's hoping to run another one soon. Free Hope performed two of their original tunes in Ryan Dawson's play 'The Delicate Balance' at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion. They've appeared at Open Stages – not just at the Hair Lounge but back in The Wild Oat days and at The Rails End Gallery. Justin would like to see a venue that showcases different genres of music – devote an evening, for example, to Alternative Folk. "We need more creative environments – positive outlets."

At this juncture, music is a labour of love. When 'Through the Ages' gigs in Toronto or Barrie they don't make much money. Basically, Andy says, "You pay to play." What keeps him going is that the audience "feels what he's playing... is touched and moved. To be human is to be alone. Look at our immense population and still such loneliness. Music is the language of the soul," Music

can take you out of yourself or deeper into yourself. It's how we relate. "It's all about personal communication, what's being conveyed," Justin says.

Future plans? Andy's picked up the violin. Justin is enamored with the cello. He's also working on a book of fiery, existential poetry which will be illustrated by his partner, Kristie Bourgeois. Tommy Rogers and the Free Hope would like to hear people play more original acoustic music. "There are too many copy cats." The plan is to release a CD of their songs. Haliburton musician, Ryan Chalmers has a studio in Toronto now where Justin and Andy will apply the final touches, mix and master the music. At this point they're not worried about record companies. There are so many resources available for musicians on the internet. Much can be done independently. Songwriters have launched careers from Myspace.com. Andy

mentions "Taxi", an online service that critiques and markets your music. "You drop in your songs," Andy says, "and the taxi takes them to where they need to go."

The old barometer for a good song still holds true: If it gives you chills, it's worked its magic. Soon, we'll all be listening to Tommy Rogers and the Free Hope. Goosebumps guaranteed.



Andy

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The Knights of Columbus - An Insurance Company With a Difference

By George Farrell

One of the side benefits of being a writer for an information-based publication is that you get to increase your personal knowledge base of both people and the organizations they are connected with. Conversely, you get to realize just how little you actually know about some things. A point in case being the Knights of Columbus, and the new Grand Knight of the local chapter, John Skinner. I had, until meeting John, always lumped the Knights of Columbus in that group of secret societies and fraternal organizations that had curious and nebulous links to the crusades, and knights of yore. Secret handshakes and signs came to mind, as well as meetings of influential, powerful people, meeting surreptitiously, following some ancient formula that would eventually see them in the seats of power they so ardently sought for themselves, and their societies. There was something not quite right, and subversive about these organizations in my mind. A quick internet scan reveals literally hundreds of these secret and fraternal organizations,

including: the Loyal Order of Buffaloes, the Rosicrucian Order, the Knights of the Round Table, Knights Templar, and Knights of St Paul and St Peter. In fact there are Knight organizations named after every apostle.

So when John Skinner started to clue me in about the Knights of

Columbus I was, quite frankly, surprised.

It is not a secret organization. OK, hands up anyone who knew that the Knights of Columbus was a fraternal organization, whose founding purpose was to aid and support one another in times of sickness or death, by means of a simple insurance plan, so that the wives of the Knights would not face abject poverty. Did I hear a few hands rising out there? The place I met John, at the St. Anthony's Church in Haliburton, led me to believe there was a religious connection, and in that at least, I was correct. Members of the Catholic Church must be shaking their heads at

my ignorance.

The Knights of Columbus Organization, was founded in New Haven Connecticut in 1882 by Father Michael McGivney, whose passion for the simple insurance plan was accompanied by a vision to strengthen families and family life; to be of service to the Catholic Church and community, by coming to the aid of those most in need in society. John Skinner compares the insurance aspect of the Knights to "the Co-operators group insurance company. The Co-operators started as an insurance company for farmers and their families." The big difference is that the members of the Knights of Columbus go out into the communities at large, and extend help where needed, to people in all walks of life, regardless of religious affiliations or beliefs. The founding principles are

Knights cont'd... pg. 38...

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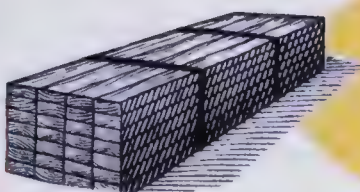


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Knights of Columbus Cont'd...

... from pg. 37

Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism, the four degrees and ceremonial levels of progression, that members can rise through, in the organization," John explains.

Here's some interesting facts about today's Knights of Columbus Organization. It is the largest and strongest insurance company in North America, with \$43 billion of insurance in force. There are 1.72 million Knights in the United States, Mexico and Canada, and in such diverse places as the Philippines and Poland. The commitment to charity in 2005 from the Knights worldwide includes raising and donating over \$139 million, 64 million hours of volunteer service, and nearly 400,000 blood donors. Interestingly enough, donations in Ontario topped \$8.7 million in 2005, which was the highest for any Province or State in the United States.

So how is the Knights of Columbus doing in Haliburton County? "Well, the local chapter which operates out of St. Anthony's church in the village of Haliburton, has only been in existence for six years. They have a twenty-strong membership in the St. Anthony's Parish, and they're working hard to increase that. Their aim is "to raise funds to donate back to the community, in a community that is besieged with donation requests and fund raising efforts," John says.

The local Knights chapter has supported the 4C's, organizations for Unwed Mothers, The Right to Life and a parish childrens liturgy

program. Plans are also underway for youth involvement at the High School level, focused on substance abuse, and recreational contests in basketball and soccer. Paul Morissette, a local high school teacher is a Knight, and he will help facilitate that programme

at HHSS. How do the Knights manage to support these vital organizations? Well, they don't go to the already overburdened business community. Instead they concentrate on the monies they receive from their own smaller fund raisers like yard sales, and silent auctions, and the commission they get from the raffle tickers sold in support of the Arthritis Society.

John Skinner, and his wife Judy have been cottaging on Haliburton Lake for over 30 years, so they have long standing ties to the

community. Originally from the Oshawa area, the Skinners moved permanently to the county 3 years ago. They have 2 grown children and 3 grandchildren. Judy Skinner, like John is active in the community. She is a member of the Catholic Women's League, and is also a member of the Hospital Auxiliary which raises funds for hospital needs. Previously John was the Canadian President of North American Van Lines. He now likes to spend his spare time gardening. His position as Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus St. Anthony's Council, means that he directs activities of members, and identifies and co-ordinates assistance programmes. "It is a 100% volunteer position." John laughingly suggests that his "rewards will come in the after-life". In the future he "would like to see the youth branch of the Knights, called the Squires, become a reality, but that's down the road a bit," he says.

Starting December 1 and going through to the end of April 2007, on Wednesday and Saturdays, the Knights of Columbus will set up tables in the V&S mall and the Independent Grocers, where you can buy raffle tickets. These are the tickets whose proceeds go to The Arthritis Society. There are over \$300,000 in prizes to be won, including \$150,000 in cash, and other items like a 2007 Cadillac, and trips. Tickets are only \$2.

Pictured: (this page) Grand Knight John Skinner and portrait of founder Father Michael McGivney (previous page) - John Skinner in St. Anthony's church Haliburton





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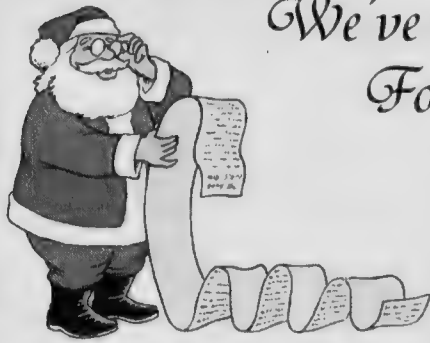
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Jackson**

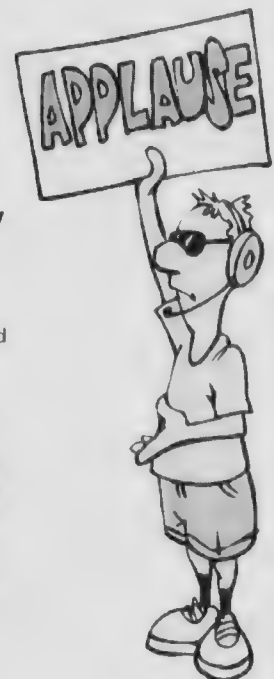
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Reflections from SoulWinds

by Brenda Peddigrw

No Endings

Standing in the silent
lovely grounds of SoulWinds
on one of the cooling
evenings we have been

having a bit too early, I began to notice the endings of all that I'd appreciated so much during the summer. The bee balm, the pink mallow, the luxurious fullness of trees, the butterflies and hummingbirds - for weeks they had filled my eyes with a particular joy, and on this evening I saw the fading, just as it began.

The end of summer is full of a peculiar sadness, just as the end of winter holds a definite joy. Yet - we go through this, year after year after year - and it's as if we somehow forget the cycle when each experience arises. Standing there, I had the thought "nothing ever ends," and remembered the theme of Mordecai Richler's story of Duddy Kravitz: "death ends a life, but not a relationship." This would be true of our relationship with the earth, with her cycles, on which our living depends.

But I had another, more poignant lesson in "no endings" a few weeks ago. On the early morning walk down Old Mill Rd., our dog Kai raced off toward something in the grass, not an unusual occurrence. By the time we caught up to her, a young wounded rabbit was trying desperately to hop away from her, with little success. Joan quickly took Kai away, and I pursued the rabbit, who was crying in pain when I reached her. Slowly I wrapped her in my jacket, and laid her on my beating heart, holding her wounded leg very tenderly. We thought that she might have been hit by a car.

Almost as soon as I snuggled her on my chest, she settled peacefully, her ears and head just emerging from the jacket-wrap, her feet securely in my hands, her eyes searching my face. I was a kilometer from home. I walked slowly, trying not to jolt her. I will never forget the feeling of tender vulnerability she gave to me on that walk - the utter privilege of holding her and giving her safety, the certainty of some deep visceral connection that I am only just learning to experience with animals, all animals. They are the primal wise ones; and I have everything to learn from them.

Reaching home, Joan prepared the cat carrier with hay, lettuce, carrots and water while I held her. We placed her as gently as we could on the hay, and then in a shady place outside. We checked her every hour that day; twice she turned herself, and tried the lettuce. But by five o'clock, she was gone. She stretched out in perfect rabbit form, and gave in to the internal injuries we suspected, but we could not determine their extent, and wanted to give her a chance.

We were bereft, as if she'd lived with us a long time. We took her in our arms and thanked her. We took awhile to determine what we should do with her. Then I remembered the young fisher I'd encountered several times in a bend of the river where I go for utter solitude and to write. She was part of the cycle; so was he. In the early dark, we took her, still warm, and laid her on a rock close to where I encounter him. In the morning, she was gone - back into the life cycle of which we are all a part.

There are no endings.

*try this: take a few minutes to notice how the "endings" in your life unfold into something new, continually, again and again.
How do you experience "no endings?"*

Early Years Centre Events For December

Wilberforce Rural Outreach Play and Learn

Our last stop of the year will be on Thursday December 14th from 9:30 to noon. We will be having a Christmas party that day and Santa will be visiting the children at circle time. Please let us know if you will be attending. We will be back on Jan. 11th.

Minden Ontario Early Years Centre

We will be holding our annual party on Wednesday December 20th from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. There will be a Christmas craft, sing-a-long, potluck lunch and, of course, Santa will be dropping by!

This year we are asking parents to bring a wrapped, labelled book for your child to receive from Santa. Please sign up by December 18th.

Christmas Closure OEYC Minden & Haliburton

Our last day open before we break for Christmas will be Wednesday December 20th. The centers will re-open on Monday January 8th. The staff of the Ontario Early Years Centres wishes you and your family a safe and happy holiday.

The **Children's Learning Centre** in Minden will be closed from Dec. 25 to Jan. 1, 2007. We will reopen Jan. 2 to Jan. 5 for regular hours. The School-age program will be at the Day Care not the school for this week.

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Quick Tips To Lower That Stress Level



Vary Workouts

To avoid the stress of injuries due to overuse of certain muscles, alternate your exercise routine. Jog one day, strength-train with the upper body the next, and do flexibility exercises on the following day. In addition to helping to balance your physical conditioning, this also makes it less likely you'll become bored with any particular activity.

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Haliburton Santa Claus Parade Highlights 2006

Photos by George Farrell



Minden Santa Claus Parade Highlights 2006

Photos by Joanne Irvine

Haliburton County Food Net Reports on the Hunger in our Neighbourhood

Hungry people live in third world countries don't they? Well, the tragic reality is that hunger exists here in our County too. The Haliburton County Food Net (HCFN) and its member agencies are committed to combating hunger and to bring about a positive shift in the way our community considers the issue of food insecurity.

They require more people who have a voice, and the resources, to inspire and make changes by acknowledging the oppression hunger causes, and becoming outraged to live in a society that does not respond appropriately to the needs of the most vulnerable.

Statistics collected by the HCFN reveal that over 48% of our local food bank recipients are children. The national average is 41%. There are currently 4 independent food banks operating in Haliburton County and the need for a 5th food bank has been identified.

Food Banks in the county rely on financial donations to purchase food, cover operating expenses such as rent, utilities and insurance. Food Banks also require energy efficient refrigerators and freezers and other equipment to ensure safe handling and storage of food items. Food Banks are all volunteer driven and receive little or no public funding.

HCFN advocates for Food Banks and encourages our community to continue to donate financially to their local food banks as well as participating in local food drive initiatives. Emphasis must be placed on the need to make nutritious food more accessible. They encourage generous donors to consider giving non perishable food items such as canned fruit, vegetables, fish, meats, whole grain cereals and pasta. Other foods in great need are school lunch items such as individual canned fruit cups. Donors are encouraged to consider the nutritional content of the foods they give and not only the capacity of the food to fill the stomach.

To donate locally, please contact:

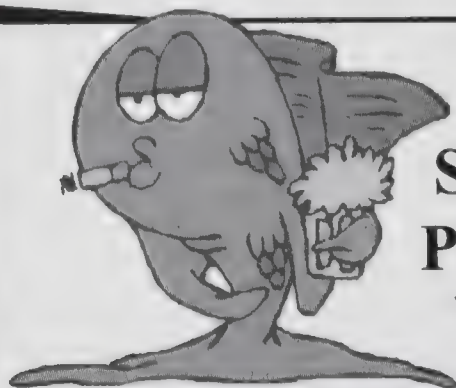
Minden Food Bank – Barb Walford-Davis, Chair – 489-1715
(Tax receipts issued over \$10.00)

Haliburton 4C's Food Bank – Ave Petch, Chair – 457-3331
Wilberforce Word of Life Emergency Outreach – Clara Burt,
Chair – 448-9707

Cardiff Community Food Bank – Evelyn Mutis, Chair – 613-339-2397

Haliburton County Food Net encourages people to respond in some way, whether it is in communicating with friends, coworkers and family about the reality of hunger in their very own worlds, or through communications with schools or seeking out policy commitments from public officials.

We must make a difference. For more information on ways to become involved, please contact Maureen Brown, Haliburton County Food Net- Coordinator, 705-489-4072.



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Most of these "reasons" are really just excuses that boil down to a fear that you won't really be able to quit. There are ways of overcoming all of these factors, and we can help. Quitting will improve your health, may add years to your life, be healthier for the people around you, and will save you thousands of dollars.

Don't let your fears stop you. We can help.

Donating food to your local food bank... Way to Go!

People who do not have enough food to eat get sick more often. To ensure that you are helping in the best possible way, please consider donating healthy food choices from the list below.

Meat and Alternatives

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Baked Beans, canned ❑ Black Beans, Chickpeas, Lentils, Kidney Beans, or White Beans, canned ❑ Nuts, canned or sealed bags ❑ Canned Stews with Meat | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Dried Soup Mixes with Beans ❑ Canned Soup with Split Peas or Beans ❑ Peanut butter and other nut butters ❑ Tuna, Salmon, Ham or Chicken canned |
|---|---|

Milk Products

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Powdered Milk ❑ Evaporated Milk ❑ Individual Milk puddings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ UHT 'tetra pack' boxed milk ❑ UHT 'tetra pack' soy beverage |
|--|--|

Vegetables and Fruit

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ 100% fruit juice, plastic bottles or canned ❑ Applesauce, unsweetened ❑ Canned fruit, packed in 100% juice or water ❑ Individual Fruit Cups ❑ Canned vegetables, low-sodium varieties | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Dried fruit (raisins, figs, prunes, apricots etc.) ❑ Instant mashed potatoes ❑ Tomato juice or Vegetable Cocktail ❑ Spaghetti Sauce or Salsa ❑ Vegetable Soup |
|---|---|

Grain Products

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Cold Cereal, not sugar coated ❑ Hot Cereal ❑ Rice ❑ Pasta | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Oatmeal ❑ Graham Crackers ❑ Whole Grain Soda Crackers ❑ Whole Wheat Bread |
|--|--|

Developed by the Haliburton County Food Action Group 2004 adapted from Regional Niagara Public Health

The Board of Management of the Minden Food Bank had the opportunity to meet with Adam Spence, Executive Director of the Ontario Association of Food Banks on November 17th. Adam and two of his staff came to Minden and presented information in more detail, about the Ontario report on Hunger.

Hunger exists in Haliburton County

with approximately 48% of food bank recipients being children. Each food bank in our county registers on average 3-5 new families per month. There are many families that could very much use the services of our 4 Food Banks, however, pride prevents them from doing so.

The Food Net members work very hard through their own agencies to bring supplemental food to their clients who face hunger as part of their daily routine.

As a community they are demanding change to policies that keep families in the cycle of poverty, eradicate the term 'working poor', and ensure that every child in this county goes to sleep with a full stomach, secure in the knowledge that there will be food on the table in the morning, to start their day all over again.

The Haliburton County Food Net will be organizing a community forum in the early new year, and they hope to count on as many people as possible to participate, attend and advocate for our friends and neighbours.

Please remember the 4 Food Banks of this county and the people they serve.

The way to achieve inner peace is to finish all the things you've started. So I looked around the house to see all the things I started and hadn't finished.... and before leaving the house this morning I finished off: a bottle of red wine, a bottle of white, the Bailey's, Kahlua and Wild Turkey, the Prozac, some valium, some cheesecake and a box of chocolates.

You have no idea how freakin good I feel....

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by Stephen Patrick

Canada Post, or "the Post Office", or more simply "the mail", is one of this country's most enduring public institutions. Indeed, most people would agree that the ability to send a letter or parcel safely, efficiently and cheaply anywhere in Canada or around the world is a fundamental cornerstone of a properly functioning country. And even with the immense changes wrought by the Internet and email on the way most of us communicate, good old "snail mail" is still a hugely important part of our personal and professional lives.

The fact that Canada Post is such a part of us and our culture is perhaps one reason why so many people think it's their right to use it as a whipping boy or girl whenever the service isn't perfect. And their ability, as government employees, to take statutory holidays at times that are occasionally inconvenient is never popular in communities where many people have little or no organized union protection.

But Dorian Malloy, Minden's Postmaster, has seen a change over the past number of years as Canada Post's service and public image has undeniably improved: "I think generally that the public's opinion of us has improved and we see greater appreciation for what we do than we used to, certainly." At the Minden Office Kim Wood and Darlene Walker deal with the public one-on-one most of the time, and as Kim puts it, "we still get some customers who really give us a hard time, no matter what, but we also get all kinds of people who really like the service. And of course, this is a small town, so we have a personal connection with many of our customers."

In Haliburton, Acting Postmistress Joanne Coumbs says that they still have to deal with a lot of customers who think they should be perfect, "and really get upset when we're closed, for



The Gang at Minden: (l to r: Laura Ridsdale, Dorian Malloy, Darlene Walker, Liz Lyddiatt, Jackie Smith, (seated) Kim Wood.

Remembrance Day, for instance. But you simply have to learn that it's part of the job." (This year November 11th fell on a Saturday, a normal day off, so the Post Office was closed on the Monday.) Karen Pockett, who also deals directly with the public, takes a measured view: "there are days when a customer can really make things difficult, and frankly, ruin your day: but there are also lots of times when people are particularly nice and appreciative of the service."

In Haliburton County a large portion of the mail is delivered to individual post boxes, or in some cases Comp Boxes at the end of certain roads. This service really invokes the majestic past of Canada Post, when the mail was an essential link in people's lives and often the only way you could

communicate with family, friends, and the outside world. And for a surprising number of people, it still is. "We know how important

Canada Post cont'd... pg. 48...

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Canada Postal Workers

... from pg. 47

the service is to our customers," says Jackie Smith, who's operated one of Minden's rural routes for the past 10 years. "And you really get to know your customers, and their families." Jackie, along with her colleagues Liz Lyddiatt and Laura Ridsdale, handle all of Minden's rural mail. Each carrier has her own route, and starts each day sorting and organizing the day's letters, parcels, and flyers. By 11 am they're into their cars, and on their way, in almost all weather conditions.

Most carriers operate on their own, which means that at each box they have to slide across to the opposite side of the car, deposit the mail, pick up any outgoing mail, then hoist themselves back behind the wheel. Which might not sound like a big deal, until you realize that the carriers perform this awkward operation hundreds of times each day. The stress on carriers' backs and necks can be a serious health issue. As well, during the winter season, the challenges of snow filled roads, snow cones, and icy roads certainly add to the stress.

Trish Sawyer delivers the mail to Tory Hill and the Essonville Line, including the infamous Vinegar Hill. "My customers are very understanding," she says, "I even have one lady on Vinegar Hill who's told me that if it's too icy and dangerous, I'm not to try and



stop at all, just leave it with her brother further on!" Trish is one of five carriers who work out of the Haliburton Post Office, serving literally thousands of customers from Lochlin to Kennisis Lake to Fort Irwin and beyond. Frank and Diane Robertson handle the RR 2 route together: Frank drives and Diane handles the actual delivery.

"We handle about 1000 mail boxes, which means we're serving well over 2000 people," says Frank. "And there are a lot of safety reasons why two carriers in one car is a better way to operate. There are studies that prove that two people in one vehicle can handle more customers than two individuals in two cars. And the safety factor is huge: I can keep my eye on the road while Diane concentrates on the actual delivery, for example.

A few years ago I was almost killed on Kashaga Drive when an 18-wheeler came over a hill behind me way too fast. If I'd been leaning over delivering the mail to the box I wouldn't have seen him – and he was coming too fast to stop – and there was another car coming in the opposite direction. As it was I was able to get going and avoid a crash. But it was a really close call."

Frank also points out that rural customers should know that mail route employees are not supposed to get out of their vehicles to deliver the mail, except for the Comp boxes. Customers are responsible for keeping the area around their boxes free of snow so it's possible for the driver to get close enough to deliver. "We make every effort to get the mail to you, we really do," says Frank, "but sometimes in the middle of a snow storm it just isn't possible. But you can be certain we'll be back the next day for another try."

Kathy Frewing and Bernice Trebell each has her own route delivering the mail to the west and north parts of the County. They both face challenging roads and long distances, north to Fort Irwin and west to Kennisis and Carnarvon, and each slogs 100s of kilometres a week. Each carrier is responsible for their own vehicles, with the upkeep being part of their contract. And they're also legally responsible for having backup if their vehicle breaks down. "But there are a lot of positives to the job," says Kathy. "There's usually a welcoming committee when I deliver the mail to the Parklane Apartments, for example." Also, Kathy's parents live in the building, and Mom makes sure there's a sandwich for her girl carefully placed in her box each day. Now that's customer appreciation for you!

As this Holiday Season gets into full swing, all of the Post Office employees are trying their hardest to get those cards and precious packages delivered on time. Just spending a few hours with these workers shows you how carefully and meticulously they perform their jobs, and how much they care about their service.



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Canada Post cont'd... pg. 49...

Canada Postal Workers

... from pg. 48

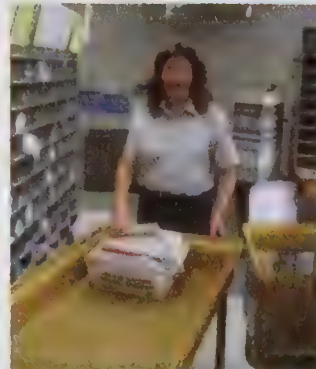
This Christmas the new 911 addresses have begun to pose a problem. As Karen Pockett points out, "Many people are getting 911 addresses from the phone book, but these are not proper mailing addresses! Please use proper Box numbers or Rural Route numbers, including the Compartment number if applicable. This will really help us to get the mail delivered on time this Christmas."

The Post Office service isn't perfect, of course, but it's certainly not for lack of trying on the part of its Haliburton employees. They really do their very best to make sure the mail gets through, on time, safely and efficiently.

The Communicator would like to thank all our fantastic mail carriers & handlers from the postal offices of Haliburton, Minden, Kinmount, Coboconk, Wilberforce, Gooderham, Highland Grove, Harcourt, West Guilford, Irondale, and Eagle Lake, for lugging our newspapers around and delivering them so quickly to all the homes & businesses in and around Haliburton County!! We appreciate you all!!

Pictured: (previous page) - Diane Robertson in car, and Trish Sawyer beside her car.

(this page) - Kathy Frewing holding blue box, below is Karen Pockett (bottom right), Frank Robertson and Joanne Coumbs. Bernice sorting mail (right).



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Worldly News

Shannon Kramer, 35, says he was pulling a prank on his girlfriend in Riverside, Fla., after a fight. He had lit the fuse on a 6-inch rocket and intended to fire it out the window of his car, but the fuse burned faster than he expected and it ignited and flew around inside the car, bouncing around and then landing between his legs, where it exploded. "I thought I was dead," Kramer said later from his hospital bed. "I couldn't see, I couldn't hear. I went to stand up and I couldn't walk." Police sent the case to the State Attorney's Office, but prosecutors there decided not to press any charges. ...Because they knew they couldn't describe the scene to the judge without laughing.

YOU'RE FIRED: An unnamed employee at a furniture manufacturing plant in Grass Valley, Calif., noticed his pants had become saturated with flammable liquid. He then "put a lighter to his pants to see if they would ignite," the company's business manager said. They did — and so did the building. Thanks to a sprinkler system and firefighters from four local departments, the building was saved. The employee, described as a college student in his 20s, received minor burns.

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Haliburton village three bedroom home on large ravine lot. Open concept living, dining and kitchen with walk out to multi level patio and gazebo. The stone fire place is magnificent come take a look. \$144,500

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Commercial

Aggregate business offers a complete package to generate income immediately after day of closing. Stock piles of natural product and equipment are part of this 89 acres site. \$489,900

At the edge of Algonquin Park is a 800 acre resort with a 25,000 sq. ft Conference Centre, a 18 hole championship golf course and 1000 ft. of shoreline on Benoit Lake. \$3,500,000

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Real Estate TIPS

by Lea Kitler

Buy New or Renovate?

So now you have a new addition to the family - or your present house just seems to be bulging at the seams! The question is - do we add on? Or do we move?

First, look at your neighborhood. If you overbuild - i.e. if you have the 'best house in the worst neighborhood' you will probably not recoup your renovation dollars when you sell. The type of neighborhood you live in will put a ceiling on how much future purchasers are willing to pay, no matter how lovely your home.

If the neighborhood is not an issue then next examine your tolerance for dealing with the hassle of renovating versus dealing with the process of finding a more suitable house and moving. Should you decide to add on, you would need to find out if your house can, structurally, allow you to do the renovations without spending a fortune to reinforce the existing structure before you begin adding to it.

You also need to check your zoning regulations as to the square footage that you are allowed to build on and how close to property lines you may build. If you are unsure as to what to do, you might find the decision easier to make if you get a quote from a builder for your planned renovations and then add that figure to the price your Realtor® feels your house will sell for.

Armed with those figures go out with your Realtor® to see what you can purchase with that amount. You may find that you can afford to move into a home that provides all you want and...the work is all done for you! If a move is in your near future give me a call at 705-448-9453.

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Kinmount Legion News:

John Mcgarth branch #441 Kinmount

By Kathy Puterbaugh

December 9th at 6 p.m. - Music Trivia - Admission non-perishable item or a toy for the local lions club food drive. Light lunch provided.

December 15 Christmas Bingo - Jackpot \$300 and Hams & Turkeys - Light Lunch Provided. Starts at 6:45.

Santa Claus Parade December 17th Starts at 2 p.m. - Thanks to the Ladies Auxilliary. They are serving Hotdogs & Refreshments upstairs. Santa will be down stairs giving gifts for children from age 0 to 10 years. So come on out and enjoy the day and have some fun.

Christmas Big buck bid Echure December 13th - \$10.00 Admission. Light lunch to follow

News years Eve is not that far away - come join Steve McCullough at the legion for spot dances & party favourites, lots of fun. Starts at 9:00PM. Admission 15.00 Single & \$25.00 Couple. Tickets in advance. Call after 4:00pm -705-488-3462 . Light lunch provided.

To Our Troops:

On the behalf of John McGarth Branch #441 Kinmount to our Canadian troops. Our hearts and our prayers goes out them and also their familes we wish them a Merry Christmas And a Happy new Year.

And to all the comrades that are sick we hope your feeling better.

"At The Going Down Of The Sun And In The Morning We Will Remember Them"

Urban Legends

God Took Them

When a little girl's cat had kittens they disappeared after a couple of days, when she asked her mother what happened to them and her mother said "God took them." Months later the cat again had a litter of kittens. Her mother sent her out to run some errands, but before she left she wanted to play with the kittens again. She heard her father coming carrying a bucket and hid from him. She watched while her father put the kittens in a sack and drowned them in the bucket. Later the girl again asked her mother what happened to the kittens. Her mother said "God took them." Several days later the mother asked the girl to watch her brother in the bath tub while she answered the phone. The mother screamed when she came into the bathroom after a few minutes. The girl told her "God took him."

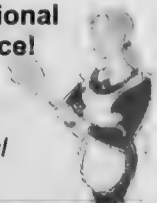


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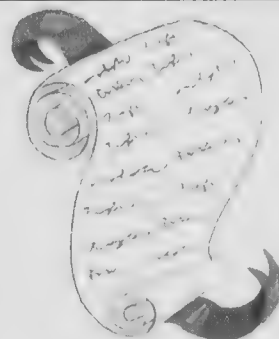
What happens if the earth stops spinning?

If the earth stopped spinning would we fall off of it? Which way would we fall if we did? Or would there just be less gravity?

If the earth stopped spinning we would not fall off of it. Despite what a lot of people apparently think, spinning has nothing to do with gravity, which is a function of the earth's mass.

On the contrary, spinning tends to throw you off the earth. Were the earth to stop spinning, we would be stuck here more firmly than ever. That's because, due to the lack of centrifugal force, you would weigh more.

How much more would you weigh? Well, figuring in your newtons, your velocity, and your gravitational constant . . . about five ounces for a hundred-pound person. At the equator. An effect you could achieve right now if you merely walked to the north pole. And which might be canceled out anyway because a stationary earth would cease to flatten at the poles. The real difference, apart from the end of life as we know it, would be that, no matter what hemisphere you were in, the bathwater would go straight down the drain.



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"The Pump Guy"

How Would You Like To WIN Dinner for 2 at Ox Narrows

We've done a feature story on Ox Narrows in this issue and they are offering a great prize of Dinner for Two. All you have to do is read the story, and in it you will find the answers to the questions below. Write the answers on a piece of paper, complete with your name, address and phone number, & the first correct entry drawn from all received WINS!!

Ox Narrows (pg. 29)

- 1 - Who is the new chef at Ox Narrows?
- 2 - What is the chef's menu concentrating on?
- 3 - How old is the Ox Narrows Lodge?

The winner of the last contest for dinner & breakfast for 2, and a haircut is: Pat Fraser of Haliburton

Deadline for entries is Dec. 14, 2006

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								24	A	I	S	L	E	S		26	E
27	O	F	F	S	E	T		29	A	B	Y	S	S				
31	I	R	A				32	R	A	U	L		34	T	E		37
38	N	O	R				39	S	A	N	R	E	M	O		41	S
42	K	E	I				43	T	H		44	K	I	W	I		45
							46	H	O	O	H	A		48	S	H	R
51	F	I	R	E	U	P		54	N	O	S	I	E	R			
56	E	V	E	R	T	E	D		57	V	A	N	D	A	L	S	
61	T	O	D	O			62	R	O	M	E		64	G	E	N	I
65	C	R	I	B			66	A	J	A	R		67	E	A	T	M
68	H	Y	D	E			69	S	O	R	T		70	S	L	O	O

Spot Sam The Advertising Man for Your Chance to Win **\$100!**



How would you like to win \$100? Well it's easy with the Communicator!

Just read all the ads and keep an eye out for Sam – The Advertising Man. We will be hiding a few Sams in various ads throughout the publication, so look for more than one.

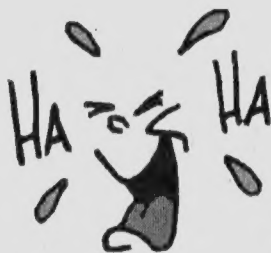
Once you think you have found all the Sams you can, write down how many you spotted, in what ads, the publication date, your name, address and telephone number, and mail them, email them or fax them to the Highlands Communicator.

The first correct answer pulled from entries received wins \$100! It's that easy and it's fun too!

There were 10 sams in the last issue. They were hidden in the following ads:

Donald Lange, Northwood Inn, The Butcher Block, Canadian Cancer Society, Golden Stationers, T Blair Sawmill, Welch Garage Doors, D & K Masonry, Yvonne Kendrick, Easton's Valuemart.

The winner of the Spot Sam Contest is: Kim Wood of Minden

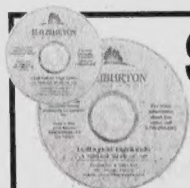


Three boys are in the school yard bragging about their fathers. The first boy says, "My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a poem, they give him \$50."

The second boy says, "That's nothing. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a song, they give him

\$100."

The third boy says, "I got you both beat. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a sermon, and it takes eight people to collect all the money!"



Stocking Stuffer Special The Haliburton Highlands DVD

is now on sale for only \$10 following locations

Agnes Jamieson Gallery, Minden
The Storeroom, Minden
Golden Stationers, Minden
Visitor Information Center, Minden
Wintergreen Maple Syrup Shack
Stedmans, Minden

V & S Dept Store, Haliburton
Highland Images, Haliburton
Maple Moon, Haliburton
Robinson's General Store, Dorset
Fleming College, Haliburton
Agnew's General Store, Wilberforce

The life & beauty of the Haliburton Highlands like you've never seen it before in all four glorious seasons!



Christmas Family Music Night

Friday, December 15th

Gooderham United Church

If you find the stress mounting and you need a little break. Let's all get back to the basics. Bring your family to Gooderham Christmas family music night Friday, December 15 at 7 p.m. at the Gooderham United Church located on Highway 503 just west of 507

Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 10th

St. Pauls Church - Minden

Join in a service of music and Bible readings for Christmas, taking place at St. Paul's Church in Minden on Sunday, December 10th at 4 p.m. St. Paul's choir, organist Elaine Bell, and guest soloists Janice Kiteley and Nicole Jennings will lead the music. No charge for admission, but a free-will offering will be taken. Refreshments following. The Church is located on 19 Invergordon Avenue. For more information contact Elaine Bell at 457-9422 or email: bushbell@sympatico.ca

7th Annual Christmas Festival of Readings & Carols

Sunday, December 17th

St. George's Church – Haliburton

If you really want to get into the spirit of the holiday season be sure to get your tickets fast for the upcoming 7th Annual Christmas Festival of Readings & Carols at the St. Georges Anglican Church in Haliburton on Sunday December 17th at 4:30 p.m. Pot luck supper will be provided by the St. George's Parishioners. Last years event was a sell out.

The afternoon will feature readings from the – "Home From Vinyl Cafe", by Stewart McLean, "A Full House", by Madeleine L'Engle and "The Promise", by Ted Dekker. Between the readings there will be lively carols and joyful music by the St. George's Choir, under the direction of Bill Gliddon.

Tickets are available at Masters' Bookstore in Haliburton or at the Church for \$5.00 per ticket. Should you have any questions please call 457-2074.

Deck the WALLS!

Nov 25-Dec 22

Rails End Gallery & Arts Centre's

Annual Holiday Show and Sale of fine art and craft featuring large and small works by established and emerging talents!

"gifts for everyone on your list!"

Rails End Gallery & Arts Centre 23 York St., Haliburton | 457-2330

Health

GOT GOJI JUICE? Get Himalayan Goji® Juice and get on the road to health. Learn more, call Anita Kuno 457-2753.

REGISTER NOW!

Physical Journeys Fitness

Winter Programs

January 8 – March 22

Programs include: Strength

Training / Athletic / Boxing /

Combo Cardio / & Light

Activity Fitness

2 Locations: Minden &

Haliburton

Certified Trainer Lori Kah

457-3224

Help Wanted

Classifieds are FREE!

Businesses

**Remember: Help
Wanted Classifieds
Are FREE!!**

It's our way to helping match employers with employees and helping someone find a job. So if you are looking for staff - call us at 457-9999 or 455-9928 (leave message)

Lakeview Motel & Dining

Breakfast Restaurant
Licensed Dining Room

Outdoor Heated Pool
Hot Tub & Patios



Your hosts
Holly & John McDonald

Cty. Rd. 121 - Haliburton (705) 457-1027 • 1-866-385-9347
www.lakeviewhaliburton.ca

For Rent

Red Stone Lake River:
Waterfront apartment cottage for rent. Beautiful One bedroom, large kitchen, fireplace, wrap around deck with gazebo, available furnished or unfurnished. All appliances \$750.00 month. Call 905-713-3939.

Waterfront apartment cottage
for rent: 2 bedroom, large kitchen, hot tub, heated floors, washer/dryer, all appliances. Available furnished or unfurnished \$850.00/month. Call 905-713-3939.

Little Kennis Lake: Beautiful 3 bedroom cottage for rent. All appliances, eat in kitchen, open concept, fireplace. Stunning view \$950.00/month. Available monthly. Call 905-713-3939.

I find it helps to
organize chores into
categories: Things I
won't do now;
Things I won't do
later; and Things I'll
never do.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Personal Classified Advertising is \$10 per classified Business Word Classifieds - \$25. Call for boxed classified display rates. (word count restrictions apply. Minimal charge for classified over.)

Houses for Sale

Backlot of Glamor Lake, newly renovated, 2 bedrooms, wood and oil heat, open concept, large deck, minutes to lake and Haliburton \$147,700. 705 489-4162 can email photos.

Funny

Real Classifieds that
appeared in newspapers...

Illiterate? Write today for free help.

Services

Iron Clad Metal Works,
Custom Xmas Gifts: Coat Trees, Fire Wood, Racks, Pot Hangers, Metal Art, Lots of Ideas, YOURS OR OURS...Give Us A Break "WE CAN FIX IT" ALL TYPES OF METAL FABRICATED....705-489-4162

Christmas Cleaning

Kitchen, Bathroom and Floors.
Book Early call 457-2753.

**455-9928
Classifieds**

SNOWBLOWER CLEARANCE!!



13 HP Briggs
& Stratton
Dual Stage
Snowblower
Power
Steering,
Electric Start,
2 Year In-
Home
Warranty

0% Financing

See Martin for
Other Specials
Clearance Items
& Bonus Offers!

Model #25580
\$1529.95

SEARS®
705-457-1170 Haliburton

Community Care

HALIBURTON
COUNTY

Providing services to
seniors and adults
with disabilities and
their caregivers.

Community Care can help you remain independent
in your place of residence for as long as possible.

Transportation, Emergency Response Units, Home Help & Maintenance, Friendly Visiting - these are just a few of the services we can offer you.

Call 457-2941 to see how Community Care can help you!



Gloria Carnochan
Cindy Muenzel
Sales Representatives

Kennisis and Redstone Lakes Realty Centre

705-754-1932

1-800-203-7471

The Mother Daughter Team

gcarnochan@bellnet.ca www.gloriaandcindy.com

ROYAL LEPAGE
LAKES OF HALIBURTON
BROKERAGE



Bring the groceries!!! One of a kind opportunity on Kennisis Lake. This beautiful lake front property has it all with south to southeast exposure. Features are 3 bedrooms (2 with balconies), 2 baths, open concept with vaulted ceilings, hardwood & tile floors. Built in appliances, main floor laundry and sunken living room with propane fireplace. The best part is it comes furnished. There is also a double car garage and Bunkie/storage.

\$518,000.00



Kennisis Lake - 4 season 2 bdrm cottage on year round road, drive to back door. Beautifully tiered frontage, with to die for big lake view of Kennisis Lake. 2 islands give protection to the shore line. Deep water swimming from a large deck and dock system.

\$359,000.00



Kennisis Lake - Privacy plus on the 748 ft. 2.84 acres shoreline of Kennisis Lake. Trees, rocks, deep water & great view, south exposure, driveway onto property. Build your dream cottage now.

\$399,000.00



Thank You
Doug & Sandy
Johnston
of
Countywide
Haliburton
Realty Ltd.
Brokerage

Dear Doug and Sandy,

You have sold the business and are now moving on to another step in your real estate career. We wish you all the best in the future. Doug, you were always one of the top real estate agents but we know you will set the real estate world on fire now that that you don't have all the responsibilities of running the company. Doug, you were an excellent broker, great to work with and a true friend. Both Cindy and I credit you with our success. You were always there for us with guidance and support over the years. Sandy, you were wonderful to work with also. We want to say Thank You to both of you for all the great years of success we have had while working for you. We look forward to working together under our new broker Anthony Vanlieshout - Royal LePage Lakes of Haliburton Brokerage. All the best to both of you!

Sincerely,
Gloria and Cindy
The Mother Daughter Team

P.S. Congratulations on 37 years of marriage.



Commercial building and 2 BR home on busy highway frontage. Ample parking, paved drive on Hwy 35. 3000 sq. ft. new oil furnace, loading dock, large basement, office space, hardwood floors, updated carpet, plumbing, roof & windows, move in condition. Endless possibilities! Enquire for more details!

\$399,000.00



Chelsea Lane (just west of West Guilford) - Looking for peace and quiet? Check out this home/cottage. 2 bedrooms with a possible 3rd bedroom, open concept, 4pc bath and forced air oil furnace. Totally renovated in 2001. Bunkie out back for noisy guests or kids and double car garage to make the man in the family happy. Deeded access to Maple Lake nearby.

\$159,000.00



Private Lake - 129 acres - Haliburton Highlands. Nature at it's best. 129 acre retreat estate type property with a private lake, mature forest of pine and hardwoods. A 5 bdrm + loft cottage sits on the shore line of Torch Lake. The cottage is full of old country charm, massive stone fireplace in LR and backing the DR. Wood floors and all wood interior with cathedral ceilings. Large deck for entertaining or just enjoy the view. This property has many possibilities. Family retreat, Bed and Breakfast, Children's Camp, Retreat Center, possible severances of lots, also appears to be 50 to 60 acres of gravel, sand and great timber. Report details available to interested parties.

\$910,000.00

ROYAL LEPAGE

vanLieshout
Realty Ltd.,
Brokerage



ROYAL LEPAGE
LAKES OF HALIBURTON
BROKERAGE

Haliburton Realty Ltd. Brokerage

Royal LePage, Now The Largest Real Estate Firm In The Haliburton Highlands With Four Offices To Serve You Even Better